VOGUE

for a Sentimental Christmas

ADVANCE RETAIL TRADE EDITION

DECEMBER 15, 1943
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FORSTMANN
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Supreme

Vogue's ADVANCE NEWS FOR RETAILERS DEC. 15
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Gifts, fashion favourites for the Holidays and New Year

Treasure hunt. In the last frantic days before Christmas, pull out an idea, entirely different from past years. Gifts which disclaim tardiness by their thoughtful appropriateness are boons to last minute shoppers. Vogue says, "Give her a household jewel—for the old tool chest, now the treasure chest of 1943." Arrange a ledge display of double value showing flashlights, can openers, juicers, an axe, and saws, with colorful costume jewels, playing up the theme of perfect gems in different classes. Play up the desirability of household necessities, especially in today's manless, servantless homes. Couple personal jewelry with jewels for the home. Show the December 15th Vogue which carries out the same idea on pages 46, 47.

Back to the sun in 1943. Vogue says, "Resort fashions—no wistful, irrelevant survivals, but practical day-by-day necessities." Those who will migrate with the sun this year have a more serious purpose—a short vacation from war-work postponed from heavy travel seasons, service wives, war-work recuperators. Group resort wear according to traveller type. Plan a balanced wardrobe for the late vacationer, from the brief bra-shorts suit with its wisp of wrap-around skirt (pages 50, 51) to a romantic, formal dress. Also include a day-and-night jacket (page 52) or a tailored coat (page 39), pointing out its later usefulness in the spring. The young bride or wife, travelling to her southern-stationed husband in the service, will appreciate southern fashions which lead double lives—a bare backed dress for beach or dinner (pages 38, 49). Display the same dress with appropriate accessories for its different uses.

Index for evening. Varied are the fashions for dusk and evening wear, but each is correct in the proper setting. Vogue spotlights, in this issue, the present picture of all the types.

LONG AND FORMAL: The dreamy young and the late vacationer will always demand bouffant swirls and the sweetly feminine (pages 42, 43, 44). An excellent selling point for your salespeople is the ageless quality of these romantic dresses for dancing.

SHORT BLACK SHEATHS—dresses with endless variability. Whether sleeveless and low necked, two-piece, or peplum, display these dresses with jewels, accessories, and evening head covering. (For the latter Vogue says, "Nothing but flattery, an idea, and a thimbleful of tulle.") Play up especially short evening dresses for juniors, emphasizing their value when a bus or subway must serve for transportation. Vogue presents two pages of junior street length evening fashions on pages 44, 45.

LONG DINNER DRESSES: Arrange your glittering long dinner or tunic dresses around the theme of colorful evenings at home, in keeping with wartime living (page 38). Highlight their gayety. Show a brilliant tunic with a short and a long skirt.

On a silver platter. Be wise to the knowledge that during and after the holiday season, women are restless with the need for spotlight touches to refurbish the clothes which serve as steady diet—a hat, a jewel, a jacket, a dress. Vogue has collected, on pages 38, 39, a varied showing of seasonal pick-me-ups. As an idea for a window display, with basic clothes as a background, present your colorful wardrobe additions on silver platters, suggesting the extra special—caviar.

Sell With New Ideas—Vogue "Quotes"

Sent Without Charge

These four quotations on cards, sent without charge—Write Vogue Merchandising Service, 420 Lexington Ave.

VOGUE SAYS:

"Short trenchcoat—handsomely bulky over a narrow shaft of skirt."

VOGUE SAYS:

"A good sure suit—faithful through a Northern spring."

VOGUE SAYS:

"Backbone of Southern wardrobes—a bare back to the sun."

VOGUE SAYS:

"Special occasion dresses balance lean lines with a festive touch."

Use These Quotations on Cards and in Advertising

READY-TO-WEAR

Vogue says:
"Try a day-and-night jacket of Shetland tweed."

Vogue says:
"Little shock-absorbent jackets for shopping and luncheon at a hotel."

Vogue says:
"Sulphur yellow coats that shine inside or out of city limits."

Vogue says:
"Aralac innerlinings—inside story."

Vogue says:
"House-warmer waistcoat for fuel-less days; feather light for relaxing ways."

Vogue says:
"Required equipment—warm gabardine slacks and a brace of sweaters."

Vogue says:
"Wear simple afternoon dresses with low, round necks, cap sleeves."

Vogue says:
"A peplum—an unexpected décolletage—on a special occasion dress."

Vogue says:
"Wear a dance dress with a sequin-lighted bodice."

Vogue says:
"For evening dancing—swirl in traditional white."

Vogue says:
"New, white, floating dance dresses—Old World charm."

Vogue says:
"A bouffant, traditional dance gown, moonlight on a whitewashed wall."

Vogue says:
"Add a bustle-bow for a festive touch."

SOUTHERN FASHIONS

Vogue says:
"An optional overskirt—wrapped like a sarong, waist to knee."

Vogue says:
"Wear long shorts of velveteen with sleeveless surplice blouses."

Vogue says:
"A sheath of Guatemalan cotton blocked in handsome, crude designs."

Vogue says:
"Notably naked—resort bathing suits."

Vogue says:
"Scant bra-tops, tight little trunks—extension of the bare-back premise."

Vogue says:
"The two-piece look—trunks and one-strap-only bra."

SMART ADDENDA

Vogue says:
"For sentiment, give something old, choice, and but one of a kind."

Vogue says:
"A hood promotes drama and protects the ears on a frosty night."

Vogue says:
"Wear an enchanted bee-keeper's net over the face and head."

Vogue says:
"Little jewelled caplets follow the line of satiny hair."

Vogue says:
"Hats for evening—flattery, an idea, and a thimbleful of tulle."

Vogue says:
"Pin a hood in place with a rosette clip."

Vogue says:
"With those bare dresses—the barer-the-better sandals."

Vogue says:
"Wear a horse-blanket shawl with a consummate country suit."

Vogue says:
"On young shoulders—big over-the-shoulder bag."

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DECEMBER 15, 1943

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the middy silhouette straight, simple and so dramatic that it is breathtaking. A huge, shell-pink rose is the only touch of color on black rayon crepe. A Capri original. Left: two-piece evening dress with slit skirt, 49.95. Right: two-piece day-length dress, 39.95. Both in sizes 10 to 18. Altman misses' dresses, third floor.

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Where

Diamond Horseshoe, The Metropolitan Opera House

Group from the Gen. Platoff
Don Cossack Chorus, Carnegie Hall

noir Boys, New York's
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Vogue
December 15th, 1943

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Vol. 102, No. 12
Whole No. 1712

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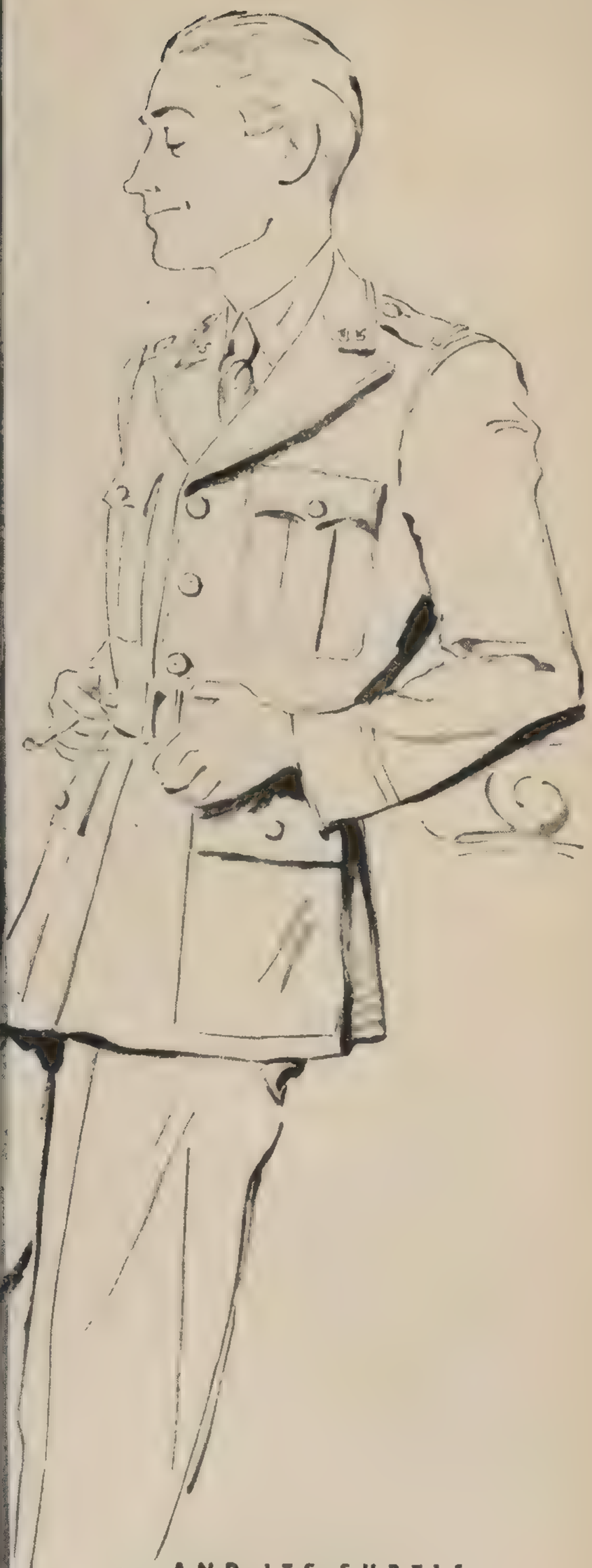

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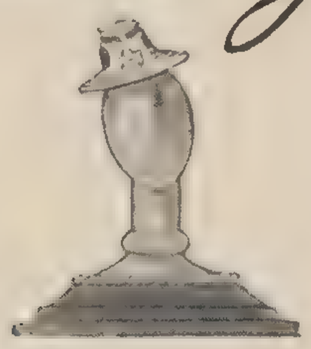

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SALUTE *to Gaiety...*

The meaning of Baroque lies deeper than mere period. It is the very essence of gaiety, adventure, and artistic progress. It is the urge for freshness and change that has been frequently termed "modern" in succeeding eras. Baroque began in Italy, about the middle of the 16th Century, with the gradual departure from the Classicism of the Renaissance. An art of vigor and joyousness led by the immortal Michelangelo began to unfold. Ornamentation became more brilliant. Canvases and musical scores were colored with a polychromatic richness and glowing vitality. But the inexpressibly alive quality that symbolized Baroque reached its fullest expression in France, during the reign of Louis XV. The court, steeped in the wealth and power acquired by Louis XIV, transformed Paris into an extravaganza of gaiety. Fetes, balls, pleasure parties and masquerades—centered about the Viennese princess, Marie Antoinette, betrothed of the Dauphin—kept the nobility in a constant whirl of entertainment and joyous living. The revelry and merriment of this period soon became the underlying mood for its art. Grande Baroque, by Wallace, is the modern portrayal in silver of this mood of lavishness and romance. The delicate nuances of shade and light, the exquisite carving and playful openwork make Grande Baroque the most glorious sterling pattern of all time. The magnificent, sculptured technique, strikingly apparent in its many picturesque perspectives, is Third Dimension Beauty, exclusively Wallace.

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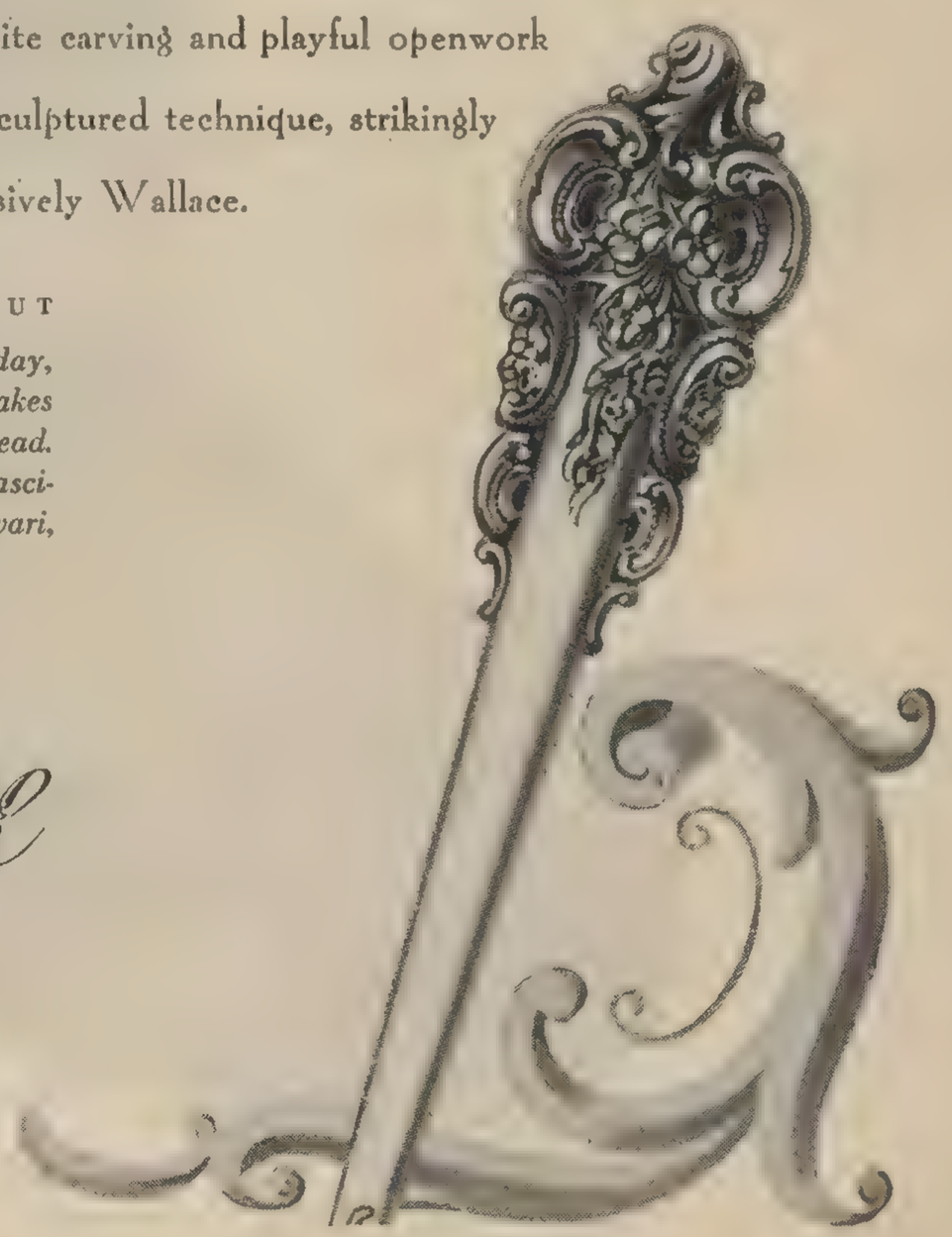

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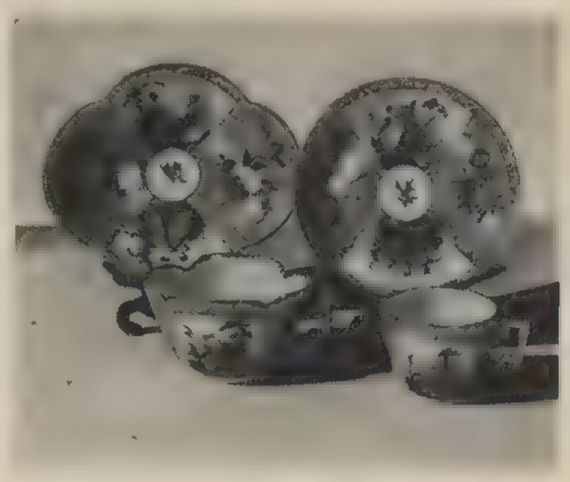

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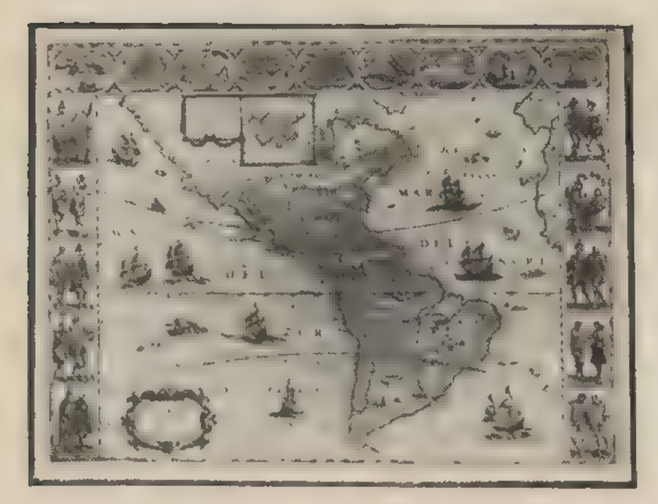

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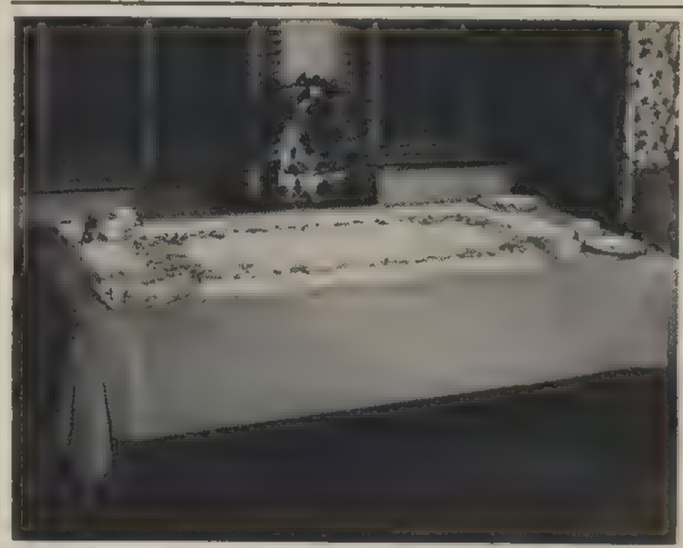

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COSMETICS

DECEMBER 15, 1943

VOGUE

INCORPORATING VANITY FAIR

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RAWLINGS

ON THE COVER. To promote drama and protect ears on a frosty night, Hattie Carnegie's hood of rayon moiré that's really a shadow-box scarf. Pin it in place with a rosette clip; spray on it the gala new perfume, "Carnegie Blue"

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(French Vogue is temporarily suspended)

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Vogue's eye view of Christmas

When Gerard David thought of Christmas he thought of the Holy Family...of Mary as a mother of Bruges, of Joseph as a kindly Flemish citizen. He painted Hope born to the world, his world—in 1500. When we think of Christmas, we think of the Christmases we used to know. Though we can't keep all of Christmas, we must keep its spirit and help give it back again to the world...our traditional, sentimental, warm, generous, happy, loving Christmas.

We must not deny to children the excitement almost past enduring of bulgy, bulky stockings, of tinkling music-boxes hidden in curly lambs, of hearing "O Little Town of Bethlehem" sung in the star-lit night in a city quiet with snow. We must, as much as we can, try to surround with cheer and warm security the ones dislodged from home: the wives of Service men; the Allied fliers, seamen, soldiers caught at Christmas in the transitory sweep of war.

And so in this issue, Vogue has sought out the endearing gestures of Christmas. Recommends sentimental ideas for this 1943 holiday. Prints letters written last Christmas by boys on the critical fronts. Shows you a gleaning of last-minute presents, from jewelled stars to the homely jewels of hammers and garden hose. Sketches New York opening its arms to men-home-on-furlough, lighting the candles of its skyscraper windows, hanging holly in the canteens, making its way to Midnight Mass.

CONDÉ NAST ENGRAVING

"Roulin, the Postman," by Vincent Van Gogh

Christmas Letters

Five from last year... all from the Fronts

MARINE SERGEANT IN GUADALCANAL

Dear Bea:

It is Christmas Day, and we spent in on the Front lines. Things are pretty quiet, and we are having little trouble with the enemy except for an occasional shelling, forcing us to retire to our foxholes. We presented them with a very nice Christmas present, too, by shelling them back and having one of our ships go down and shell them.

We are dug in on the side of a densely wooded hill, and our foxholes are so placed that they are in the densest part of the shrubbery. We have cut a staircase in the side of the hill, and it is so dark at night that, in order to move around, we have strung a rope so that we can feel rather than see our way. For Christmas Day, the rope has been decked with green palm leaves.

Some of the boys got their packages from home on time. They shared with the others all that was edible. For our Christmas dinner we had turkey, dressing (the dressing was made much better because our cook went out to a ship and borrowed five pounds of thyme), potatoes, peas, bread and butter, hard candy, cigarettes, and coffee. Some of the more enterprising men, with the aid of climbing irons, mounted a tall palm-tree and decorated it with cartridge cases, tin cans, coloured paper, and cotton batting.

We were read a very stirring Christmas message by our Commanding Officer, and we had a Christmas Mass held by our regimental chaplain on a sun-parched ridge. Marines clad in dungarees, with rifles slung over their shoulders, knelt in prayer. And, of course, as dusk falls very early, six o'clock brought our Christmas to a close. Love, Norman

BOMBARDIER IN LIBYA

Dearest Mother:

This is the first Christmas in twenty-seven years that I've been away from home.

The boys are all pretty quiet today; one could sense the general gloom that settled over our camp and knew that minds were thousands of miles from this dismal desert. I tried to kid myself that Christmas could be skipped this year, but my bluffs were futile, and I've made poor company. My tent mates share Sherman's views on war, and we cursed the country (this one) together. I didn't find a single German to sing "Silent Night" with me.

Not a drop of spirits are flowing. Reason: a high-altitude mission scheduled, and alcohol and oxygen don't mix. No, Mother, I'm not living with saints, but we aren't completely gone either. We fared pretty well for dinner: had Bird's Eye frozen chicken and ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, sweet potatoes, cherry pie, coffee, cake, and candy. Uncle Sam sent over the frozen stuff by plane and is still aware that we are in the war.

Next to you and home, I think I miss fresh milk the most. It has been six months, come Jan. 23, since I have tasted anything but canned cow—I want some of the udder kind. (Don't throw that Buddah, Muthah—it's mine.)

Some of the boys are really getting sand-happy. Now take the case of my crew. We spend our off hours piling rocks up into neat piles and then kicking the piles down. We found a rusty tin can cover and *(Continued on page 20)*

⇐ **ROULIN, THE POSTMAN** (opposite)

The enchantment of this great Van Gogh was seen publicly for the first time when it was shown recently at the Wildenstein Gallery for American and Dutch Relief. Its owner, Bernard Mayer, brought it to this country when he left Europe—another of the world's great art treasures the war hegira deposited here

whiled away our idle hours scaling it back and forth. We sing songs of our own composition, tell pointless jokes, and sorry stories.

We're having regular raids to let Rommel know we are very much behind him. When the North African forces under Eisenhower meet our outfits we shall have the Axis in a spot.

P. S. I just wrote to Jack Cowles congratulating him on the successful completion of the 10% salary saving plan to buy Bonds. Maybe the men in the mill will buy a few more and send us a new plane. This one has holes in it—and not from moths, either. Love, Josh

SAILOR IN A LIFEBOAT

Dear Sis:

The day has gone, the sun is going down, it has been very hot out here today. There is no Xmas tree, no bells to ring the time this morn, no nuts, candy, or any lights to make one think that this is a holiday to us. All we have had today is 1½ cakes of Baker's Chocklet and 1½ Graham Crackers to eat and 9 ounces of water. I have been watching the fish around this boat, just hopeing that I had a fish line to catch some with, but that is out. I have no lines or hooks, nothing possibly to hook one with. I have been swimming today. That's something that you havent done and it has made me very hungry. I sure hope that we are picked up within the next few days as I don't think that we can last much longer.

We were torpoed and sunk Nov. 26 and have been out in this 28 ft lifeboat 29 days. We are still about 800 miles from nearest land and don't know when, or even guess when we will hit land. I don't think we can last much longer than we allready have, although my spirits are still high. I have never lost my self confidence in myself, or this Captain we are with. I sure hope that I dont look like the other fellow's in the boat. They have about 2 in. of beard, there hair is hanging down in there eyes, there faces has shrank down to allmost nothing, their clothing are torn to shreads, no shoes on there feet. They have been watching the horizon for some possible ship that might be coming our way, but no luck. Its been that way since we come aboard this boat from the raft we were on. We are very lucky to be alive in this boat as we had to get her at high seas and bail her out with a sea anchor. I know that by the help of God I will spend my next Xmas at home with the rest of the kids. Hoping to see you soon. Be good and tell the rest that I said hello. Your loving brother, Lester

[*Editor's Note:* These torpedoed men were finally picked up ten days after Christmas, and this letter was mailed.]

PILOT'S CHRISTMAS WITH THE QUEEN MOTHER

Dear Mother, Dad, and Gang:

Though I can't tell you exactly where I was, or the mission engaged upon, or the military impedimenta of the moment, I think even the hardest of censors would let a guy tell you just a bit about Christmas Day.

I had a dinner engagement at the Queen Mother's. Nearly all of you contributed with one thing or another to the gift package I carted along to be presented to Her Majesty. Lieutenant Brush, who accompanied me as the only other American guest present, thought I was a bit crazy, but I felt all along I knew what I was about.

Met in the royal hall by a doorman, so to speak, whose quiet dignity and poise made me feel a bit like an unshod hillbilly in town for the very first time, I was helped off with my coat, clutching the while the unwrapped parcel which bore on the outside the rather unfestive statement: "Perfection Paper Clips—6 gross."

We were conducted to the Queen's parlour. Immediately after the introductions, Queen Mary entered the room to the curtsies of the ladies present and bows of the gentlemen. She greeted each of us individually, giving us her hand and looking, the while, as sweet and lovely as a sixteen-year-old girl.

Having thus greeted her guests, she came over to me and Lt. Brush, excused herself from the other guests, and requested us to follow her into her sitting-room. As I passed through the door into this room, I was holding the paper-clip box in what I shall ever hope was a nonchalant and born-to-the-purple manner. She put us completely at ease immediately, telling us how happy she was to have us there and also to say she hoped we would accept a little Christmas gift from her.

Whereupon she took from a table two packages and was about to hand them to us when she observed the rude cardboard box in my hands. She sweetly asked me if, perchance, that could be a gift for her. Vainly trying to hide the paper-clip label, I nonchalantly placed the box on a table behind me and mumbled something about it being rather nothing at all—just a little potpourri from America that I had whipped together from parcels *(Continued on page 63)*

RAWLINGS

DULL GOLD CLOTH TEA-GOWN BY VALENTINA

Mrs. Vincent Sheean with Linda and Ellen

Mrs. James Vincent Sheean, wife of the famous foreign correspondent, reads a letter from their father to her two little daughters. Her husband, author of the best-sellers, "Personal History" and "Between the Thunder and the Sun," is now in Italy serving as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army Air Force. Sable-eyed Mrs. Sheean, the daughter of Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson and niece of Maxine Elliott, is the magazine editor of the news digest page of the New York *Post*

Christmas Stars

Even in the midst of wars—men somehow, always, find a way to give jewels to the women they love. This Christmas the gift of a jewelled star has the same oblique flattery it has always had. And because the star design is a timeless classic, it has the implication of permanence in this impermanent world. On this page are jewelled stars as modern jewel designers see them—for pretty ears, for a lapel, a neck-line, a *grande toilette*...and always and forever for remembrance.

NORTH STAR, top of page, eight-point star with alternating points of palladium and tiny diamonds, Kashmir sapphire centre. Verdura.

PLEIADES earrings, diamond-point constellation. From John Rubel.

THE GEMINI, gold-star earrings, diamond centre, onyx shadow. Verdura.

SERVICE STAR, star-cut sapphire set in diamonds outlined in square-cut rubies. (Designs range from one to five stars.) Neiman-Marcus, Mermod-Jaccard-King.

COMET of diamonds and platinum . . . trailed with more diamonds set to tremble and quiver with the effect of glittering, delicate movement. From Cartier.

STAR SNOWFLAKE of gold, rubies, and diamonds. By Nadja Buckley at Bonwit Teller.

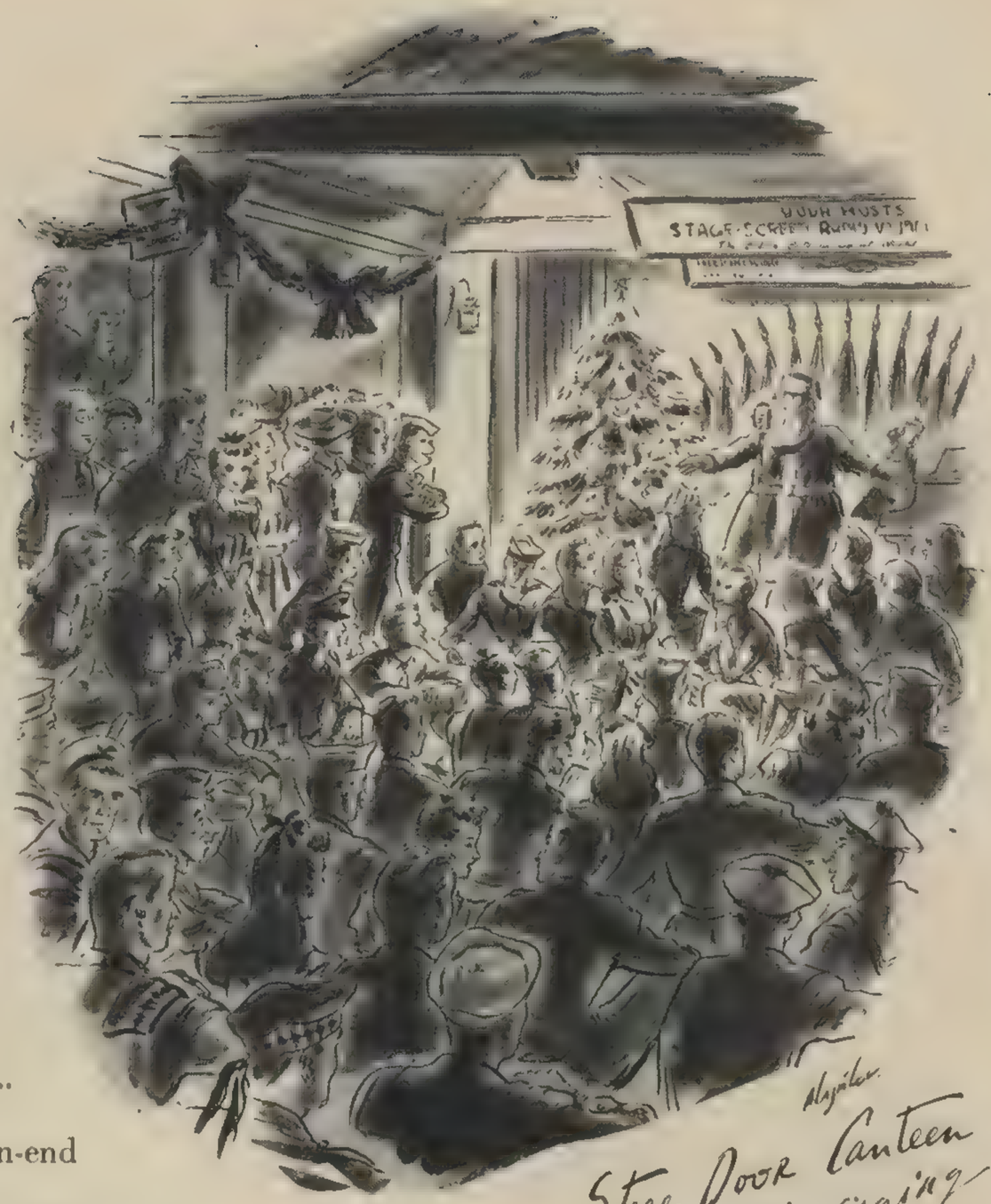
WHITE MINK (opposite). Herewith—the first *white* mink in the world. Precursor of all the astonishing new breeds of colourful furs that are promised among The Things To Come.

THE FIRST WHITE MINK COAT IN THE WORLD; BY ESTHER DOROTHY. DIAMONDS, HARRY WINSTON. BENCH, RUBY ROSS WOOD

Christmas

Midnight Mass St. Patrick's Cathedral

in New York

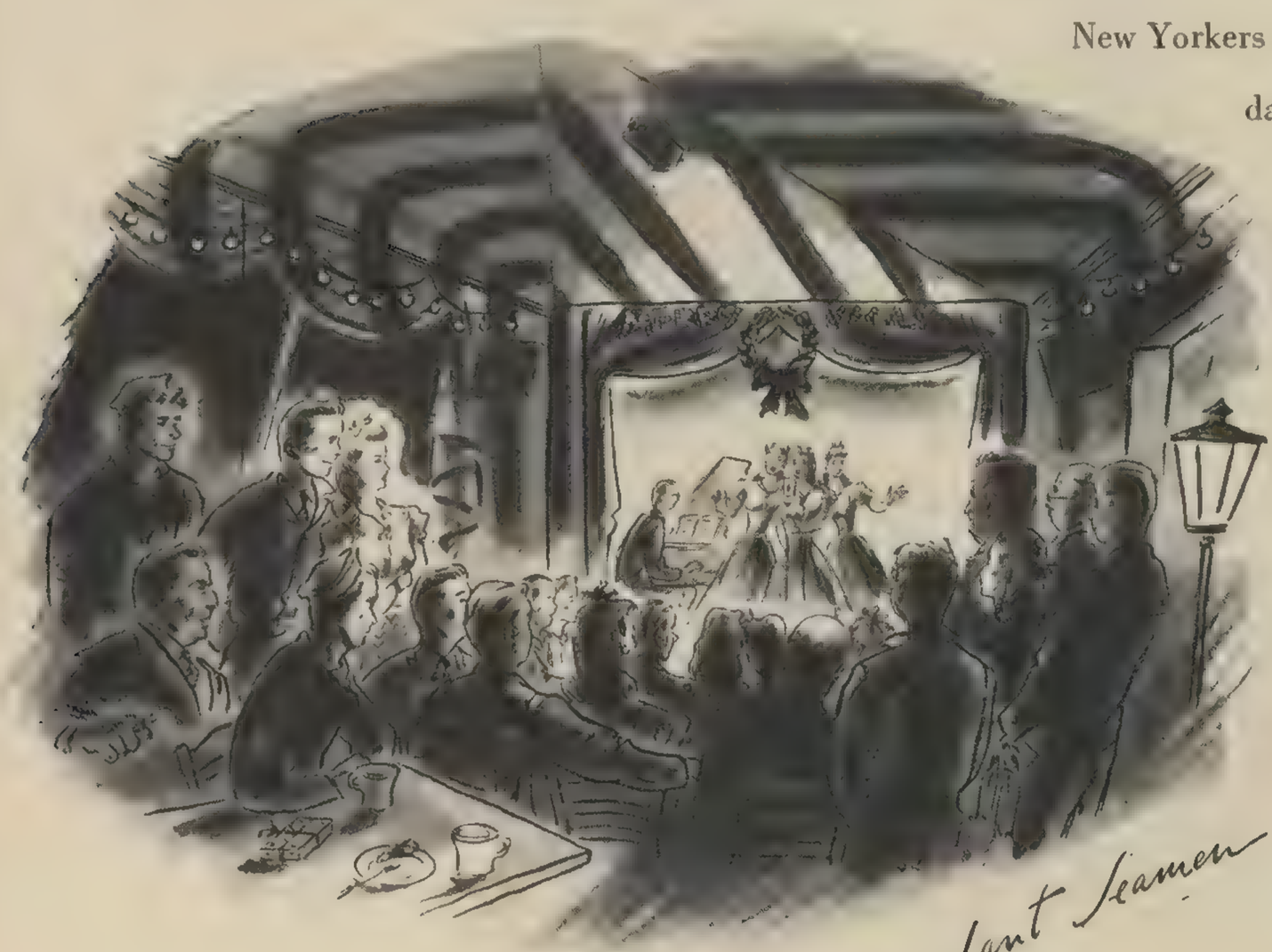


Stage Door Canteen
Santa leads the singing

CHRISTMAS starts at noon of the 24th day of December for most New Yorkers and ends with the downbeat of a mood after Christmas dinner. In that high-keyed interval of joy and celebrating, doormen have received holiday inflation largess...taxi drivers have had even stranger adventures than usual.... Worshippers have crowded in by the thousand, at midnight, to St. Patrick's splendid flickering chasm of sound and space.... Christmas carols have ricocheted against the Nabisco-on-end shafts of Radio City...have beaten against the tall windows of Washington Square, and given all the dwellers therein a strong nostalgic sense of continuity.

Children in leggings and kid gloves have been duly seated at the Planetarium to see the sky as it was the night of the Nativity, nineteen hundred and forty-three years ago...have had the Santa Claus-on-every-corner manifestation explained with varying degrees of satisfaction. Everybody has talked to everyone else. Strangers with loaded arms have sighed and smiled, acknowledging the inescapable hectic-ness of the hour. Men with a wild eye and their wallets in their hands have rushed into the shops, in the old American masculine tradition, in the zero hour just as doors were being locked—and demanded the biggest bottle of the most expensive perfume. Many self-respecting pets, family retainers, suddenly have the bewilderment of a satin bow on their collars.

New Yorkers this Christmas Eve, as they did last, will sing and dance and carry trays and try to bring a little sugar-dusting of happiness to all the Boys in Uniform who are whirled away from home on the crazy snap-the-whip machine of War. Many New Yorkers will dine and go to a play...will take along a stranger in uniform...will meet, in uniform, the Loves of Their Lives, no strangers, at the milling Information Centres of both big, din-filled stations...will ride under furs in a sleigh in the Park...sightsee and star-gaze... and many, many New Yorkers will just go home and trim the tree.



Club for Merchant Seamen

Hat pretensions

JOFFÉ

Mrs. Sherman Jenney and Mrs. John Heminway

Mrs. Hugh Chisholm

THESE evenings, ladies like "something on the head." Here are four festive little somethings—all pretensions to a hat—nothing but flattery, an idea, and a thimbleful of tulle. MRS. HUGH CHISHOLM wears a mobile Christmas head-dress of stiffened discs of veiling, jewelled loops, and—twinkling everywhere—gilded paillettes tipping stripped ostrich. The earrings: sprays of diamonds, by Van Cleef and Arpels.

MRS. DESMOND FITZ GERALD wears an enchanted bee-keeper's net—sheer tulle and green, gold, purple sequins. • Both hats: Lilly Daché; Vandervoort's; I. Magnin & Co.

OPPOSITE

MRS. SHERMAN JENNEY (left) in a tiny hat of black satin with a stiffened band of pearls and gold pretending to be a brim, lace veil. Bergdorf Goodman Original.

• MRS. JOHN HEMINWAY (right) in a pearl-flowered satin coronet. Hat and jewels, Bergdorf Goodman Originals.

Mrs. Desmond Fitz Gerald

Ideas for a Sentimental

JOFFÉ

For sentiment give something old, choice, and but one of a kind: Antique diamond-studded French box, octagonal perfume bottle; Berns. Gold watch, oval compact; Milton Schepps. Oval vinaigrette, perfume flask, pencil; Guitel Montague. Hats; John-Frederics; Marshall Field. Kislav gloves; Best.

• You can't shut Christmas out; closed doors won't do it, locked hearts won't do it, not even the headlines can smother Christmas. It's a sentimental binge, God bless it...to children a dream and a promise, to grown-ups a symbol, to the men overseas a memory as well as a hope.

• *Christmas is as Christmas does...the time to reach-out, to spill-over, a time for love. Believing this, we offer suggestions for presents, for wrappings, for parties, and for decorations.*

• If like the girls in the picture above, you are thinking of giving an antique phial, don't send it as is, first fill it with perfume; fill a tiny snuff-box with saccharine. Fill an eighteenth-century papier-mâché box with chocolate, an old cut-glass bottle with toilet-water, a sugar-bowl with sugar. Or let an antique porcelain teapot impersonate a well-filled tea-caddy.

Christmas

• For a puzzle fan, have an enlargement made of the best photograph of you or the children; get the local jigsaw man to make it into a personal puzzler. Or slip the photograph intact under the lid of a glass doodad box. Give a man's Gay 'Nineties tie-pin to a lady in need of a hatpin. Give several yards of different-coloured veiling in a satin veil-case. Or six old flower prints, gay and inexpensive, in a gold-paper folio that you made yourself.

• *Search the antique stores for the old, be-flowered porcelain door-knobs. Give a pâté maison really made in your maison. Or better still, five of your favourite recipes, with a sample jar of one. Give ideas, a membership to Town Hall or the Museum of Modern Art.*

• With the present shortage of spirits (alcoholic), when people drop in on Christmas night, serve them hot tea, with flaming rum on top. In the dining-room ceremoniously laid out on a table covered with a bright tartan cloth, fat piles of sandwiches, a tureen of oyster soup.

• *Save your gas coupons and gather a gaggle of children, your own and their friends, to make a prearranged carol-singing tour, stopping at two predestinations for a progressive light supper....Arrange a party at the orphanage or day nursery; ice-cream, cake, a magician and juggler are the requisites, and your own brood to learn that Christmas isn't all getting....*

• With the shortage of Christmas-tree decorations, give a Week-Before-the-Day Party in the late afternoon for children and grown-ups; segregate the ages in different rooms, serve them slightly different refreshments, but set them all to making the old-fashioned paper tree cut-outs.

• *Ingenuity has always produced the best-looking Christmas wrappings; boldly paint the name of the sender and the receiver on packages wrapped in white shelf-paper tied with fuchsia wool. Or use the gayest scraps of wall-paper tied with green florist twine or white tape.*

• Like a gipsy's knapsack, wrap your packages in remnants of satin and velvet, the four corners knotted up together. And book-jackets of red flannel, with painted white titles.

• *James Pendleton, the decorator, uses newspapers tied with red tape and the rotogravure section secured with big blobs of bright red or blue sealing-wax. Or plain brown wrapping-paper perked up by pasting on the good news headlines, tied with strips of red flannel.... And the Christmas covers of the current magazines are effective when used as wrappers.*

• Remember two shades of tissue-paper are better than one—for instance, pine-green combined with chartreuse, each layer deftly turned back on itself to get the maximum effect.... And white tissue-paper is pretty-pretty tied up with black cotton lace from the five-and-ten.

• *In decorating the house, try for a tongue-in-the-cheek Victorian effect by covering all the living-room tables with stiff green tarlatan; then fringe the edges or paint on a white border.*

• Stooging for a tree, a huge armchair which James Amster covers with fir or balsam and piles with presents....Beside it, an outsize red flannel bag to accommodate package débris.

• *Hang the board (not the bird) high; a beaverboard panel covered with Christmas cards over the mantelpiece or just inside the front door....String some of the cards on green holly garlands.*

• Keep the dining-room snowy, hang swags of whitewashed corn husks around the moulding, pin pompous white cotton bows in the corners. For the centre of the table, whitewashed huckleberry; and along the window ledges, line up brandy inhalers with squat candles burning inside.

• *Pile what Christmas baubles you have in coal-scuttles. Bring on the presents in an open wash-basket painted in water-paint fireman's-red, and banded in white. But whatever you do, however you do it, take thought and trouble with Christmas—make it a time to remember.*

To give...

RECORDS TO GIVE... Here are the records you might give for Christmas—all kinds, for all kinds of people. These choices are, on the whole, slightly erudite—even the jazz tends to be intellectual.

You won't be able to get some of these records some of the time in some of the places you'll look. They're all around somewhere, however, if you look long enough. You might even, though it's unlikely, find one of the elusive Jenny Lind records, which have become part of history.

PLAYED BY THE COMPOSER. Rachmaninoff plays his Concerto #2 for Piano and Orchestra (with Leopold Stokowski and the Philadelphia Orchestra)....

DeFalla at the harpsichord in his Concerto for Harpsichord, Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Violin, and Cello....

Constant Lambert, conducting the St. Michael Singers with Sir Hamilton Harty and the Hallé Orchestra, in his own "Rio Grande" (musical setting for a poem by the modern experimental poet, Edith Sitwell).

NEAR NOSTALGIA. Lillian Russell, singing "Come Down, My Evening Star." (This is a curiosity piece, strictly; the music has faded.)...

Bert Williams' album of songs, including "The Moon Shines on the Moonshine...."

Voices of the Golden Age of Opera. The records are twenty to thirty-five years old, but good. Among them are: "One Fine Day," from "Madame Butterfly," sung by Geraldine Farrar; and Emma Calvé's low-toned, throaty "Habanera" from "Carmen," somnolent, ominous, beautiful.

Metropolitan Revivals with Enrico Caruso, Geraldine Farrar, Louise Homer, and other famous singers in the sextet from "Lucia di Lammermoor"; the quartet from "Rigoletto," and others.

WORDS WITHOUT MUSIC. James Joyce, reading "Anna Livia Plurabelle" (the last pages of *Finnegan's Wake*) in a flowingly broguey baritone, so soothingly melodious that you forget to make sense of his words, even the ones you can understand....

Gertrude Stein, reading from one of her earliest and best books, *(Continued on page 74)*

BOOKS TO GIVE... Here are some of the books that were published a little while ago, some new, some pretty old, and some that you may just have forgotten. Not obviously chosen from the best-seller list.

NEAR NOSTALGIA. Clarence Day's *Life with Father and Mother;* the witty clarity of brownstone family life in the 'Nineties....

The Works of "Saki," by H. H. Munro (especially *The Chronicles of Clovis*); a pre-1914 English wit who brutally tore apart the English upper classes—a black spider wit....

Evelyn Waugh's *Vile Bodies:* a witty salting-down of the Bright Young Things of the 'Twenties.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE. Ortega y Gasset's *Invertebrate Spain:* a sharp, brilliant, gossipy analysis of his own people by a Spanish professor....

Gerald Johnson's *American Heroes and Hero Myths:* a dissection job that ranges with no pedantry from Jefferson through two Roosevelts....

Tolstoy's *War and Peace:* the great novel that is also a military diagram of battle in Russia....

Rebecca West's *Black Lamb and Grey Falcon:* the Balkans understood with vision and love and a complete knowledge of their history and art and the quirks of the people....

Winston Churchill's *The End of the Beginning:* war speeches, and papers, and side remarks. (A collection of all the Churchill writings is a good present.)...

Walter Lippmann's *U. S. Foreign Policy:* the argument and statement of a future policy, too.

SLIGHTLY ERUDITE FUN. Wilkie Collins' *The Moonstone* or *The Woman in White:* the start of the mystery story, two classic examples....

T. H. White's *The Ill-Made Knight:* the story of Sir Lancelot, so homely he had to be best, written by the man who did *The Sword in the Stone....*

The early Benchley: *Of All Things*—before he began repeating himself....

The early Stephen Leacock: *Literary Lapses*—before he began repeating himself....

Crockett Johnson's *Barnaby:* the comic-strip story of a little boy *(Continued on page 76)*

books and records

KAY BELL

NINI TURCOTTE'S PINK LOUNGING PYJAMAS OF RAYON AND WOOL. $30. LENTHÉRIC SALON; WILLIAM H. BLOCK

Christmas List of Records to Give,

Nostalgia, Classics, Intellectual Jazz.

Books of Slightly Erudite Fun,

of Life, and Historical Perspective

BALKIN

OSCAR HOMOLKA AND THE WONDERFUL BRATS OF "THE INNOCENT VOYAGE"

VOGUE'S SPOT-LIGHT

By Allene Talmey

THE clichés of the town are "anything goes" and "everyone's coming back to the stage." And they are both true. People fight for tickets to what would have been last year's flops and to what would never have gone past a receptionist's desk five years ago. Everyone even likes everything, fighting to get tickets as though the theatre were just a place to get out of the rain. When Michael Todd finally closed down "The Naked Genius," after selling it to the movies for $350,000, he piously announced that he did it to keep faith with the public, since sixty-six per cent. of the audiences didn't like this farce about a burlesque queen. Curiously enough, the audiences that did go and kept the house pretty filled just sat there with a silly grin on their faces, never laughing, not moving, just waiting for the signal to go home. Joan Blondell, its star, said the cast was bored with the audiences, and that that was really why Todd shut it up.

But no audiences or casts have been bored with "Othello," which brought Robeson back to the stage. Like the Air Force play, "Winged Victory," and "Oklahoma" and "One Touch of Venus," Othello is a success as far as the eye can reach. But it is not just the tolling of the Robeson voice, nor the quick, crafty acting of Ferrer, nor the virginal whiteness of Uta Hagen that gives the play its additional power. It is the combination of all the three; the paleness of Desdemona, fragile, loving; the massiveness of Othello, with his enormous, extravagant hands, his deep goodness, his honest primitive soul; the wiriness, the egoism, the control of Iago. José Ferrer, who snares the two, plays the part with no cringe, no bent-over craftiness. He plays it like a matador, on the tip of his toes, always in control, manipulating, from a disciplined position, the goaded Othello who rushes past. There is a sublime ease with which Iago mathematically plots Othello to his doom, plots and loves the plot with a virtuoso's delight in his technique. It is never the one actor in this production who is the play, it is always the threesome, the contrast. But the Theatre Guild has done them shabbily in sets and costumes that lack the imagination of Margaret Webster's casting—the casting which takes Othello for once out of the class of touring companies at colleges. But if Margaret Webster is pure Shakespeare, the production is Ben Greet. The Theatre Guild has a fine, old-fashioned horror of freshness of scene.

THERE is a slight horror at the subject that Rose Franken chose for her drawing-room problem play, "Outrageous Fortune." Controversial, interesting, illogical, it neither states exactly nor explains its subjects; there are two, Judaism and homosexualism, and it all takes place in a rich family's house in Connecticut. Into this setting, there comes a high-flown character whose life has been an international battleground of chic sex, but who, by the time the play opens, is afflicted with an attack of straightening out peoples' lives. (There is a slight suggestion of "The Passing of the Third Floor Back.") But in spite of all this, there are scenes of great heart, scenes of extraordinary understanding, mixed in with scenes that are cloudy and embarrassing. Elsie Ferguson, who has come back to the theatre at last, plays the Third-Floor-Back character, with her deep, still lovely voice, in a costume by Valentina that makes her look like a Bedouin's tent in a gale—enormous and blowing. Of all the cast, the most enchanting is Madame Ouspenskaya, frail as old lace, strong-hearted, with the magic of true acting that makes her lines always seem to be the finest.

LIKE Elsie Ferguson, Oscar Homolka has come back to the theatre in an interesting attempt to put a cold-blooded analysis of children into a play. Paul Osborn has taken Richard Hughes' book, *High Wind in Jamaica,* and made it into "The Innocent Voyage," but he has softened the children, given them at times the cunningness of Barrie, the sweetness of his own "On Borrowed Time." For Mr. Osborn can't quite believe, with Richard Hughes, that children can be unfeeling and unaware of adult emotions. That is the heart of Mr. Osborn's failure to get the Hughes book with complete success on the stage.

However, he manages to make believable the confusion of the pirates who took on the brats by mistake when they boarded an 1860 schooner, carrying the children to England. Two of the pirates, played by Mr. Homolka and Herbert Berghof, *(Continued on page 76)*

"THE INNOCENT VOYAGE" (opposite)

Oscar Homolka is back on the stage, playing opposite eleven-year-old Abby Bonime (centre on the opposite page), who is a sweet and clever scene-stealer in this play of bewildered pirates and unfathomable children

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT TWO PAGES

KATHARINE CORNELL AND RAYMOND MASSEY IN "LOVERS AND FRIENDS"

Mr. Massey is back on the stage; in fact, just out of the Canadian Army, where he served as a Major. Here, with Miss Cornell, he is in control of a breeze of a comedy—written by Dodie Smith— a calm, loving British triangle, played by this pair with touching delicacy

MARGARET SULLAVAN AND ELLIOTT NUGENT IN "THE VOICE OF THE TURTLE"

BALKIN

Miss Sullavan is back on the stage, after seven years in the movies, to be with Mr. Nugent in John van Druten's warming, soft laugh, New York triangle. It is played with the touching delicacy that has made not only Mr. Nugent, but also Miss Sullavan, famous

"OTHELLO" (opposite)

Paul Robeson is back on the stage, the greatest Negro actor playing the great Moor. Here in combination with an equally great Iago, played with stylized and stretching craft by José Ferrer, he is the star of the season's premier drama and its only tragedy

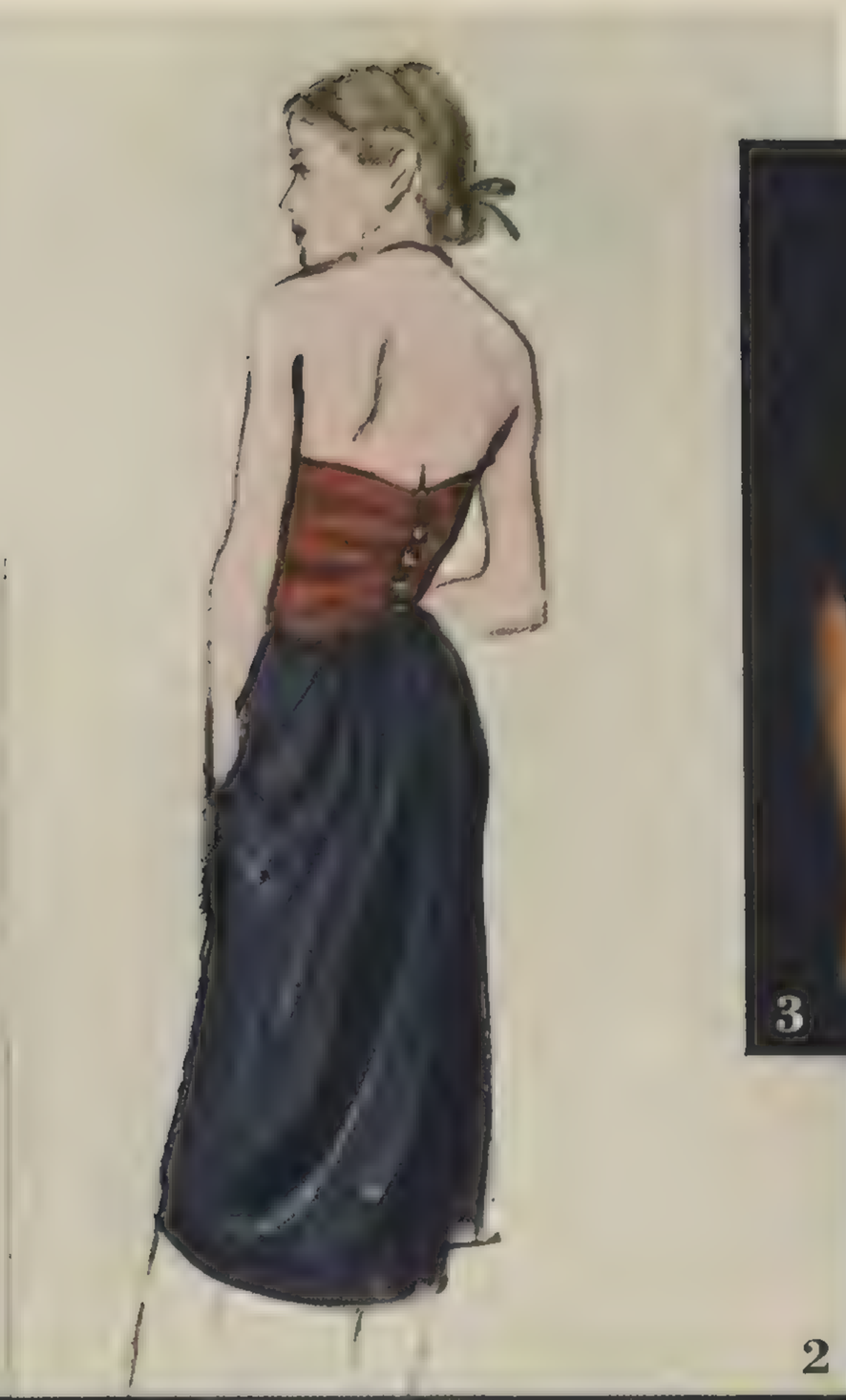
BALKIN

PAUL ROBESON AND JOSÉ FERRER, THE MOOR AND IAGO, IN A MAGNIFICENT "OTHELLO"

PENNSYLVANIA STATION, hooded in darkness, blue as the depths of a cathedral, a place of deep emotions and surface laughter, a lifelong memory of a station in wartime. These two pictures were painted, with his heart on his brush, by Miguel Covarrubias.

BROADWAY IN THE BROWN-OUT. Part circus, part nightmare, the excitement centre of New York. Pouring slowly along the sidewalks, the mass of girls and soldiers; the cheapsam and the tired; the whole town; and always a pair of French sailors.

1



2

RAWLINGS

3

4

5

JOFFÉ

RAWLINGS

RANDOM HARVEST

Winter harvest of beautiful fashions, ranged at random. Dinner-dresses—short, long. Razzle-dazzle stocking-cap. New coiffure. House-warmer waistcoat. Country suit. Two blond coats, good as gold.

1. Short dinner-costume of jersey. Sketched first with its shirred, sleeveless jacket, buttoned to the throat.

2. The same dress shown with its bare red halter-blouse. Navy-blue rayon jersey. Altman.

3. Mrs. John Rawlings pins diamonds in her side-swept shingle. Coiffure by Antoine of Saks Fifth Avenue.

4. Bright velvet, gold glitter, on Hattie Carnegie's wool stocking-cap. Earrings: Mermod-Jaccard-King.

5. Long dinner-dress with an Egyptian look: wide Nefertiti-collar and bands of gold nailheads on a short scarlet tunic. Obelisk-slender black skirt. Of rayon crêpe. Design by Adrian

RAWLINGS

JOFFÉ

6. Mrs. T. Dennie Boardman wears a warm little waistcoat of black wool, flowering with embroidered sequins—petunia-pink blossoms, green leaves. Slippers to match. Pink shirt; black velveteen slacks. John-Frederics.

7. A consummate suit by Heatherton, of honey-bland camel's-hair. Hand-sewn lapels; bone buttons. Wear with it a simple cloche, a cashmere sweater, white gloves, a magnificent horse-blanket shawl. Suit and shawl; Lord and Taylor.

8. Two coats that shine inside or out of city limits. Left: Officer's-coat (civilian version) of sulphur-yellow wool fleece. Flap pockets, set-in belt, sleeves buttoned close at the wrist. Saks Fifth Avenue.

Right: Short, collarless trench-coat of natural camel's-hair—handsomely bulky over a narrow shaft of skirt, great distinction in its fine squared shoulders and new, low, loosely belted back. Bergdorf Goodman

DÉBUTANTE, 1943

CAME 1943—my year—the year of hundreds of other seventeen- and eighteen-year-old girls like me. I dreamed, during my childhood in China, about coming out at the colourful St. Andrew's Ball in Shanghai, where girls from the international community were presented ...a dream, néed I say, that's been exploded. But the reality—a début in my own country, in New York—is far better than the dream, for my father, long held prisoner of the Japanese, will be here for it...home for Christmas on the *M.S. Gripsholm!*

YES, even with a war on, New York girls are having début parties; but the majority are war benefit or charity balls with a hundred or more girls in the receiving-line. No more $10,000 parties with Big Name bands, Pol Roger champagne (American now), flowers flown up from the South, and gate-crashers. The man-shortage is wept and laughed over, but each girl secretly thinks the lack of men hasn't touched her. (Fortunately, New York is a port city.) And there are V12 and ROTC men from college, pre-meds embarrassed about their civilian clothes, West Point cadets (their brass buttons make dreamy earrings), and all the Service men on leave.

DURING the week, most of us are in college, in business training schools, canteens, or hospitals. A few are studying Russian, Chinese, Greek. Many are training to be nurses' aides. Several put in long hours at the Grand Central or Pennsylvania Station canteens, scrubbing tables and serving over the counter. Some are receptionists at the Blood Bank; others have all-day jobs. One night or more a week, we go to the dances for the Service men at the Junior League, English-Speaking Union, Navy League, or Citizen's Committee. Mastering the dance steps of the boys from every Allied country...especially the big Australians'...is as tricky as mastering their phrases: "Roger" for all right, "Boodle-hop" for a dance where food is served.

JUST as parties are fewer and simpler—so are clothes. We adore long evening dresses, but we don't need many this year. White tulle or net—off-the-shoulder, romantic, waltz-skirted —for the Assemblies and Cotillions. Our new pet, for small evenings, is the short dress—no tripping over a hem when you run for bus or taxi. Perhaps a fuchsia or black one—parents no longer object to black this practical year. Possibly a shoulder-strap top if not too naked and your bones are good. Over all evening dresses, a fur jacket—or a last year's evening wrap.

THE charm of neat heads is beginning to register. And Cynthia Redmond gets the vote for the neatest hair in New York. Her blond hair, parted on the side, flat on top, just misses her shoulders and is rolled under in page-boy effect. The new fad at Finch Junior College is gay-coloured cotton stockings. Not only do we like cheer in our stockings, we like comfort in our heels. No tottering stilts—for night and day, steady heels. No calcimined faces, either, with black lipstick...we like to look pretty—but not glamorous, please! It is not in the mood.

BY PATRICIA POTTER *(Her photograph is on the next page)*

⬅ *Coming Out in Blue* (*opposite*)

A skirt that may look like the days of fabric-abandon, but, in spite of its lovely flaring sweep, is strictly within the law. No more, if no less, than the maximum 144-inch sweep, L-85-allowed. Henri Bendel's young dancing dress of silk faille, with a hand-embroidered, night-blooming sequin flower border. Jewels; Harry Winston. Bendel's "Checkmate" perfume, "10 WEST, Night" lipstick

RAWLINGS

AT THE ALLIED FLAG BALL

In wartime-America, most coming-out parties are on a collective bargaining system, aligned with a major Cause. This year, as last, in lieu of the usual private début, some hundred young New Yorkers will assemble at the Coty-sponsored Allied Flag Ball—for the benefit of the New York Infirmary for Women and Children, instead of for benefit of débutante alone. However merry the dancing feet in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria, the 8th Annual Débutante Cotillion is in step with a higher cause. Fathers who once paid sizable sums for début parties will this year buy War Bonds in the same amount.

RAWLINGS

MISS BABETTE HOLMES. MISS PATRICIA POTTER

MISS BABETTE HOLMES, daughter of Mrs. Harry C. Cushing, recently attended Miss Hewitt's, will work in the pediatric ward of the Roosevelt Hospital, and at the Service men's canteens at the Grand Central and Pennsylvania Stations. She wears a ball gown of rayon net, with garland-shaped lace décolletage flickering with gold beads.

MISS PATRICIA POTTER, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John S. Potter, a student at Finch Junior College, is Chairman of the Débutante Committee for the Musicians' Emergency Fund. Her dress of rayon net has a shirred taffeta bodice and a floating skirt appliquéd with red velvet flowers. Both dresses: Best; Bonwit Teller, Philadelphia; Harzfeld's.

Below and on the opposite page are five of this year's débutantes, who will swirl in traditional white, but, this year, under the marshal chaperonage of the Stars and Stripes; British Union Jack; Russian Star, Sickle, and Hammer; Chinese Sun—at the Allied Flag Ball. Their erstwhile tails-and-white-tie stags will wear the uniforms of Allied nations. Their début, no longer thought of as a cycle of year-long social engagements, is now a passing introduction to the new world in which they live—to a future of war work or college. And paradoxical as many things are in their young lives, their new white, floating dance dresses have an Old-World charm.

MISS JOAN OSBORN. MISS CONDICT FREEMAN. MISS LEILA BURTON

MISS JOAN OSBORN (left), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Fairfield Osborn, goes to Barnard, works on the committee for the President's Ball. Here, she wears a dance dress of rayon net, with a sequin-lighted bodice. Lord and Taylor. MISS CONDICT FREEMAN (standing), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leon S. Freeman, combines Barnard, and committee work for the United Neighborhood Houses. Her rayon marquisette dress is inset with black lace. Saks Fifth Avenue. MISS LEILA BURTON (centre), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank V. Burton, attended St. Timothy's, is now a teletyper in the British Ministry of War Transport. She wears a dress of rayon net with a satin-striped bodice. Altman.

Miss Mary Lou Ward

Boston

Three pretty young Bostonians
wear the clothes all juniors love —
evening dresses (still bouffant),
simple afternoon dresses with
low, round necks, cap-sleeves —
wear them to the parties for
Service Men which have replaced
all other big festivities in Boston

Miss Mary Lou Ward, who studies
at Nursery Training School, wears
(left) cocoa-brown rayon net, sequin-
sprinkled. $30. Bloomingdale's; Filene's.

(Below, right) an afternoon dress of
black rayon faille — round, low neck
scalloped in palest blue. $16.
Lord and Taylor; R. H. Stearns.

Miss Mary Amory

Miss Mary Amory, devoted
U.S.O. worker, wears
navy-blue Enka rayon
taffeta — round, low neck,
fuchsia velveteen sash.
$18. Russeks; Jays.

On young shoulders
big over-the-shoulder
bag like this —

The simulated
pearl necklaces
on both pages are by La Tausca;
from Arnold Constable.

Miss Ward, at a Service Men's dance

Juniors

Boston Juniors wear these young, unaffected, feminine clothes — to the Saturday-night dances for Service Men at the Statler, to Union Jack Club, Stage Door Canteen, to the Officers' Club in the old Sears house at the hallowed corner of Commonwealth Avenue and Arlington Street.

Miss Sally Cole

Miss Sally Cole, who is training as a cadet nurse, here wears a cap-sleeve afternoon dress of black rayon crêpe, piped in pink. $23. Altman; Jays.

Miss Ward wears, here, bouffant white rayon chiffon and jersey, silver-embroidered. $35. Jay-Thorpe; Crawford Hollidge.

Sketched here - the little chaplets - often jewelled, the narrowed velvet ribbons, which the young choose, to follow the close lines of their satiny, smooth-brushed hair.

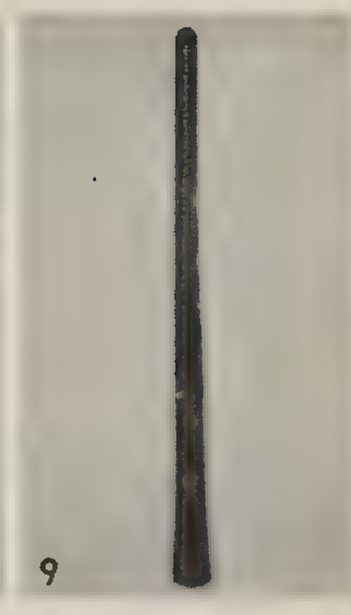
• All the dresses on these pages — Junior sizes 9 to 15.

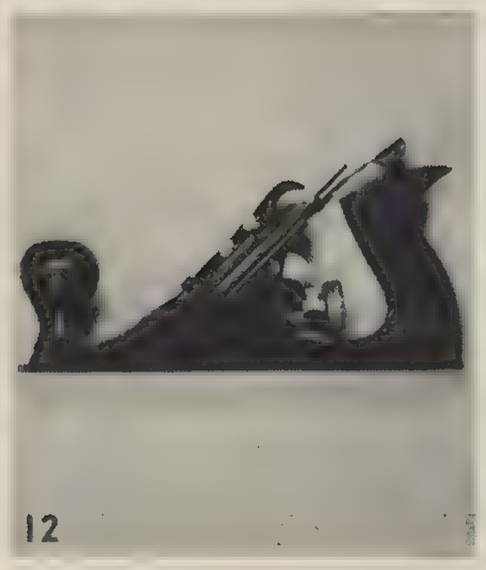
BALKIN

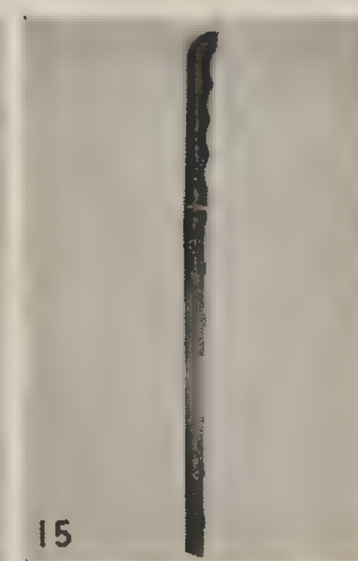
Miss Ward, at the Officers' Club

GIVE HER A JEWEL...OR GIVE HER A TOOL THIS CHRISTMAS: A PAIR OF SPARKLING EARRINGS OR A HOUSEHOLD JEWEL OF A SAW

GIVE HOUSEHOLD JEWELS

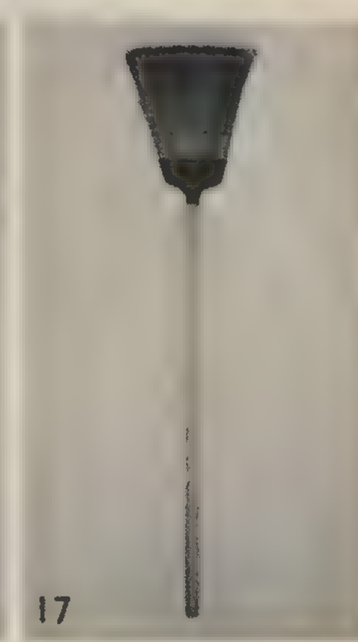






THIS Christmas give her a household jewel—a saw, a shovel, a screw-driver, or garden hose. Rare as precious metal in this wartime priority year; good as gold in a handy-manless house. For men *and* women—even the prettiest women you know. Necessary luxuries for the old tool-chest, the treasure-chest of 1943.

1. and 2. Knife, 8-inch steel blade; 94¢. Screw-driver, wooden handle; 59¢.
3. and 4. Claw hammer, forged steel; $1.59. Steel wire-cutting shears; 98¢.
5. Woodchopper's assistant—this ax with a 5-inch blade of forged steel; $1.49.
6. Steel snippers to snip flower stems, twigs; $3.29. All six above from Macy's.
7. Flashlight. Adjustable focus. Spare bulbs. $7.50. Abercrombie and Fitch.
8. Corkscrew of wood; wooden screw. Gentle with corks. Fits all bottles. $1.50.
9. Slicer, hollow-ground blade. $3. Slicer and corkscrew; Lewis & Conger.
10. It's a rubberless garden hose! Of light, but tough plastic. 50 feet long. $13.50.
11. Good little stoker or gardener's aide—short-handled steel shovel (No. 2). $2.
12. One smooth operator everyone likes to have around—this 9-inch plane. $3.
13. Bottles tip their caps to this sterling silver-handled opener. $6.50, plus tax.
14. De Luxe Juicer, big enough to take on grapefruit. Chromium trim. $23.50.
15. Cake- or bread-knife (No. 285). Serrated edge and finger-grip handle. $1.35.
16. Perforated, slotted, and basting spoons; stainless steel. Each about 85¢.
17. Fibre bristle broom (No. 31). $1.75. Last eight; Hammacher Schlemmer.



Nos. 1 to 6; Macy's. 7; Abercrombie and Fitch. 8 and 9; Lewis & Conger. 10 to 17; Hammacher Schlemmer

Back to the Sun

THIS is a winter when only the birds have gone South for the usual reasons. The Government scowls at frivolous migration, and most habitual sun-followers—the aged, the fatigued, the strictly social—are taking second-thought before taking southbound trains. But the resorts are crowded by an extraneous population—most of it, arrived for good and sufficient reasons. Some women have closed their fuel-devouring houses in the North, have taken their children to spend the winter where sun is the fuel. Others, deserving a breathing-spell, have gone South on yearly vacations, postponed from last summer at the O.P.A.'s request. Many more have gone to be near their husbands, stationed at myriad Naval and military bases strewn across the Southern states. For these, "Resort Fashions" are no wistful irrelevant survivals—but practical, day-by-day necessities.

Take something warm. Veteran sun-seekers know it, but novices may not: most resorts, however steady their supply of ultra-violet, can produce cold, cutting weather. Warm gabardine slacks and a brace of sweaters are required equipment. So is a good, sure suit—something boxy, of men's-wear grey flannel, equally faithful through a Northern spring—or a classic camel's-hair—or a collarless cardigan suit, yellow, pink, or the greyed-green of Florida moss.

Back business. The backbone of Southern wardrobes is the dress which turns a bare back to the sun. With a single stroke, it erases most miscellaneous whimsy of the beach clothes of the past. Sometimes—like the dress sketched opposite—it doubles for dinner; sometimes it swathes an extreme décolletage with a jacket or stole. Colours are various, brilliant, exuberant: white, gold, tangerine, holly-green, flamingo-red. There are extensions of the bare-back premise: three-piece costumes, with slightly-gathered skirts, scant bra-tops, little shock-absorber jackets for shopping and luncheon at a hotel. With these bare dresses—the-barer-the-better sandals, and short, stubby white gloves of chamois, string, piqué.

Notably naked—resort bathing-suits. Most are two-piece, with tight little trunks and the briefest of bras. A few have optional overskirts, wrapped like a sarong, waist to knee. Fabrics range from the sleekest black wool jersey through fine balloon-cloth cotton to hand-painted jerseys and cottons from Mexico. In the Don't Go Near The Water beach club, the backless sundresses allow a few fellow members: long velveteen shorts, with sleeveless surplice blouses.

After sundown. Sun-followers will need two evening dresses. One, short, décolleté, with shoestring straps and often a stole to match. It may be a fuchsia silk shift—or a riotous seed-catalogue print on white jersey—or a sheath of Guatemalan cotton, blocked in handsome, crude designs....And one long dress, for occasional dances at the Officers' Club. Perhaps a reed-slim shaft of purple silk tissue, or of sequin-embroidery on a black ground. Perhaps—for the young—a traditional swirl of pale tulle, or of stiff young white lace.

Here begin 5 pages of Fashions for the Sun →

Bare-back dress for beach or dinner. Black top—pink-and-black plaid skirt; $23. Scarf, $2. Everfast cotton

LORD AND TAYLOR; FROST BROTHERS; THE MAY COMPANY, LOS ANGELES

More on the following pages →

Back to the Sun (continued)

One strap only! Bra and trunks. $19. Wrapped skirt. $10.
Hibiscus-red rayon-and-cotton, Bergdorf Goodman.
Bondanna pants, bra, of Mexican rayon jersey. $23.
Henri Bendel. Both are Thea Leser designs

Sleeveless surplice rayon blouse.
Long velveteen shorts. Both, sand-beige. $25.
Black wool jersey bra, brief pants. $23.
Clarepotter designs. Bonwit Teller

Day-and-night jacket of Shetland tweed. $25.
Saks-Fifth Avenue.
White wool jersey shift, side-and-shoulder-buttoned. $25.
Altman; L.S. Ayres

EXPERIENCE AMONG FREAKS

By Bertrand Russell

The unsought encounters of a slight, puckish gentleman, England's noted educator, philosopher, mathematician

MOST of us live among a circle of people who seem to us the sort of people that one would expect people to be. Their manners and customs, their opinions, their clothes, their behaviour on New Year's Eve, are such as not to surprise us. Few of us realize to what an extent our acquaintance depart from the average of mankind, and depart in just the same direction as we do ourselves.

And so, when chance brings us in contact with some one with whom we have no social or professional link, we are almost sure to find the stranger odd. Probably he finds us equally odd, though that may seem incredible. Did the Ancient Mariner think that his behaviour was just what was to be expected of an old salt? Perhaps he did. The type is not so uncommon as might be supposed.

I was walking one morning through the outskirts of a small seaside town when I saw two men standing at the open door of a house. One of them was looking terrified, but could not get away because his coat button was being firmly held by the other, whose eye glittered and whose voice inspired awe as he intoned: "When The Great Spirit of The Universe wakes, the world wakes; when The Great Spirit of The Universe sleeps, the world sleeps. Not all the Eastern Sages...." But by that time I was out of earshot, so I shall never know what it is that the Eastern Sages can not do.

Many of my most interesting meetings with strangers have been in trains. Trains and boats have a liberating effect upon many people; they give an illusion of isolation from the herd, leading to a freedom of behaviour and conversation which would be impossible at home. Sometimes the listener, willing or unwilling, is repaid by intolerable boredom, sometimes by worse than boredom. I encountered once a drunken dentist, whose alcoholic attentions drove me from my Pullman to the Club Car, from the Club Car to the dining-car—in vain, for he pursued me, publicly examining my teeth and assuring me in loud tones that I had a very bad dentist.

Frequently, however, encounters in trains are less embarrassing, and sometimes one is rewarded by an addition to one's gallery of queer folk. I remember with pleasure the elderly businessman whom I met shortly after the beginning of the depression, who had lost his belief in Providence because, after a lifetime of industry, he was left with only eight thousand dollars a year. More cheerful was my encounter, at a somewhat earlier date, with a young naval officer to whom I happened to mention Brussels. His eye gleamed with pleasurable reminiscence, and he exclaimed: "Brussels! I like Brussels. There's more sex-appeal per square foot there than anywhere else except Suez and Constantinople." But what he had to say about Suez and Constantinople I shall not repeat.

In England, people are less inclined to converse with strangers than they are in America, but even in English trains I have had some pleasant encounters. I was travelling once from London to Evesham, where Simon de Montfort, father of the Mother of Parliament, was defeated by Edward I. The only other passenger in the compartment was a young lady; we occupied opposite corners in decorous silence, reading our respective magazines. But at Oxford, after the train had started, a passenger who had arrived late tried to board the train. A porter seized his bags to prevent him, and I seized his arms to help him. The tug-of-war proceeded as the train gathered speed. At last I said to the porter: "If you don't let go, he will be killed." So the porter let go, and I hauled the man in. This somewhat broke the ice, and we began to converse. The young lady turned out to be a schoolteacher, about to emigrate to Canada to carry on her profession there. I asked why she was leaving England, and she said because her headmistress objected to modern methods of teaching arithmetic.

Naturally, I asked how modern methods differed from the older ones, and she explained. The headmistress, it appeared, thought that one should teach "twice two are four, twice three are six," and so on. But the modern method, so I was informed, is to say, "Now, dear children, we will have a talk about the number two. How many eyes have you, dear children?" And they answer two. "And how many ears?" And they answer two. "And how many hands?" And they answer two. "And how many noses?" And they answer two. After this, one is intended *(Continued on page 70)*

SIDEBOARD BY THE DECORATOR, GEORGE STACEY

SET FOR A

[EDITOR'S NOTE: *Mrs. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, the author of this article, is a New Englander by birth, a New Yorker by habit, and a food connoisseur by avocation. She is known not only for the famously good food at her own dinner-parties, but also for her ability to plan menus en masse—for big benefit luncheons for the charities in which she is interested, and for soldiers' canteens. Well-known, too, is her food-detection talent—she can name the ingredients of almost any dish after tasting it once. Her recipes are, therefore, part imagination, part sense, with a strong dash of intuition.*]

CHRISTMAS brings its own wonderful confusion—the lovely jumble of Christmas morning, of Christmas wrappings, or Christmas cards dovetailing on the mantelpiece. There's no need to add any more. Christmas dinner should be as serene as ingenuity can make it. A long table, beautifully set, and as many relatives as possible, each in his place—these are as much a part of Christmas dinner as the turkey. If your family too heavily outweighs your household—as it well may this year—you may be tempted to try a buffet dinner. But this is no time for the usual buffet, with the family divided up at small, unstable tables, bobbing up and down to serve themselves. Christmas is the day, more than any other, when you want to look down the table and see two long rows of familiar faces, bright with the special Christmas look, to know that you are a family and that you are all together.

A buffet system that I have used for years, for dinners of twenty or more, is now my standby for dinners of twelve. For those who have one servant, twelve people are a great difficulty—even eight people mean a slow service. But everything goes smoothly if the food is set on the table, served from each end, with coffee on the sideboard, and one maid to take away used plates. A great expert in entertaining once said that the principles of a good dinner-party were, apart from the guests, interesting food and peace to enjoy it. I would add a meticulous symmetry and neatness in the arrangement of the food, and you can have all of these prime requisites, even with rationing and manpower problems. Casserole dishes are a perfect solution, and, if you have glass lamps for your casseroles, you will have hot food and an attractive light on your table, as well.

But no expert will, I hope, spoil the lovely tradition of the Christmas turkey, the cranberry sauce, and the sweet potatoes that are part of every American childhood memory. Interesting food for other dinners, by all means, but turkey for Christmas. As an unreconstructed New Englander, I have oyster soup—thick, if cream is available; turkey with chestnut stuffing; and homemade cranberry sauce, looking brilliant and tempting in double glass bowls, packed with ice; sweet potatoes, glacéd; finely chopped beets, and a green vegetable; plum pudding or pumpkin pie; and, if children are present, ice-cream.

LONG TABLE; ZIGZAGGED CANDLES; SILVER BALLS, LIKE BUBBLES, IN GLASSES OF DIFFERENT SIZES

As a rule, I do not serve soup at a buffet dinner. This buffet dinner—which is becoming more and more necessary in entertaining—eliminates the necessity for anyone's leaving the table; the lamps are on the table, and the main dish is on the table before dinner is an- *(Continued on page 69)*

CHRISTMAS PARTY *by Katharine Frelinghuysen*

CHRISTMAS TABLE

This dinner-table, with white cloth and winding river of silver Christmas-tree balls, can be endlessly varied. The glass casserole burner comes from Switzerland, but one can be improvised with a heavy, straight-sided glass bowl, glowing with three squat little candles. The silver balls can lie loose on the table, as above, or they can be piled, like some strange winter fruit in thin crystal bowls. If the table is long, there could be a burner at each end, with the silver balls wound like a garland between them. Or the balls can be scattered in glasses of different heights, as on the opposite page, until the whole dinner-table looks like a giant champagne glass—all white and silver and crystal, just like Christmas.

FOR HOLIDAYS AND NIGHTS

Here are seven Special Occasion dresses. All balance their lean lines with some small festive touch—a peplum, a soft bow, a bright belt, brief cap-sleeves, an unexpected décolletage.

1. Deep V-back, a bustle-bow, jewelled buttons down the spine. Sleeveless dinner-dress of black rayon velvet. It's a Charles Armour design. Sizes 10 to 16. $40 at Chez Rosette.

2. Two-piece peplum-dress, short-sleeved, jewel-buttoned. Of black Bemberg rayon taffeta, with turquoise-blue satin stripes. Adele Simpson design. Sizes 10 to 18. $60. Saks Fifth Avenue.

3. Taffeta peplum-pockets, jewelled buttons, on a covered-up dress of navy-blue Enka rayon crêpe. It's an Adele Simpson design. Sizes 10 to 18. $45 at Bonwit Teller; Himelhoch's.

4. Décolleté black rayon crêpe, with yellow shoulder-roses. Sizes 10 to 18. $40. Arnold Constable.

2

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4

JOFFÉ

5. Two-piece jumper—black rayon crêpe. Pink leather belt. Rose Barrack design. Sizes 10 to 16. $50. Henri Bendel.

6. Black rayon crêpe; grosgrain-banded peplum. Capri design. Sizes 10 to 16. $35. Altman; Bonwit Teller, Philadelphia.

7. Dinner-dress with a low, round, tiered neck, cap-sleeves. Of sheer navy-blue rayon crêpe. Sizes 10 to 18. $25. From Best.

CHRISTMAS WRAPPINGS

Give her one present for the best-loved hour of her busy day. A fetching négligé, hand-made slip, cosy, warm robe were never so near and dear to this year's lady of little leisure.

1. Rhythmic lines of a Grecian figure, this wraith-sheer nightgown of rayon crêpe. Hand-made. Satin-edged and flower-appliquéd satin midriff. $17. From Bonwit Teller.

2. Négligé of misty rayon crêpe and lace, $17. Lace-bodiced nightgown, $17. Best.

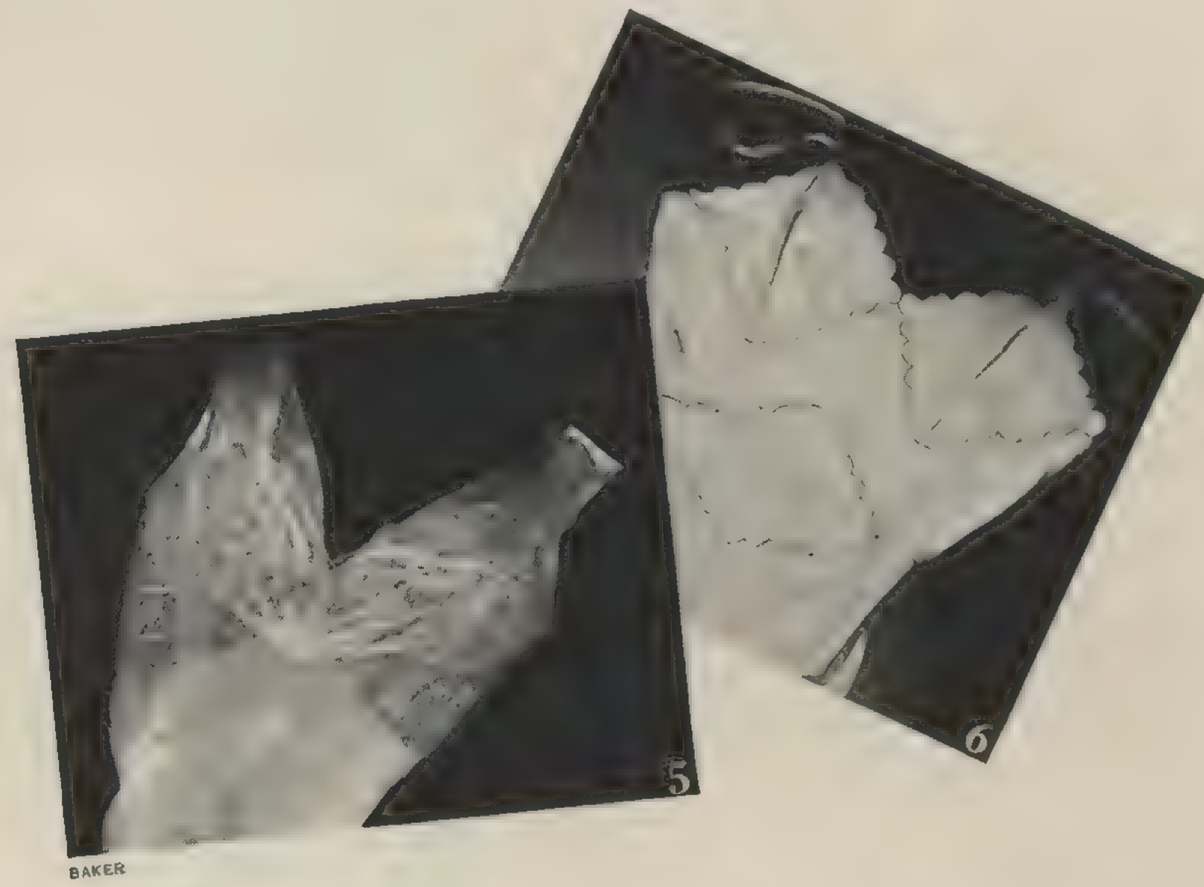
3. Nightgown that starts out like a fine-hand-tucked blouse. Note the tiny tucking at shoulders, on the flared collar and cuffs. Hand-made of rayon crêpe. $15. Bonwit Teller.

4. For a warmer friend—a pink or blue robe of soft rayon pile. $13. Henri Bendel.

5. For a Christmas bride—a sheer silk nightgown, hand-made with especial love and care. Front, Chantilly lace. $50. Slip to match (not shown). $45. Bergdorf Goodman.

6. Scalloped-edge slip of rayon crêpe. Hand-made; cordon-stitched. $8. Bonwit Teller.

KAY BELL



BAKER

CHRISTMAS WRAPPER. A classic Christmas present with a new inside story. This quilted robe of Skinner rayon satin has an Aralac interlining. Toast-warm for fuel-less days; feather-light for relaxing ways. $35. Bergdorf Goodman; Neiman-Marcus; I. Magnin

THIS IS MY PROBLEM,

Answering problems is Mr. Anthony's business. Likewise the business of these Christmas gifts. Here are two dozen answers for the problem-people on your list.

1. Yardley's lavender-scented bath set; soap, talcum, and Lavendomeal.

2. A British complexion all done up in ribbons. By Cyclax of London.

3. To make her lipstick agree with her costumes: Revlon lipsticks.

4. Old South's "Woodland Spice" sachets in a painted china cigarette-box.

5. A grand-gesture gift—Guerlain's "Coque D'Or," in a bottle that's also D'Or.

6. Cosmetic-filled kit within a kit. It's DuBarry's handsome idea.

7. Coty's "Muguet des Bois" perfume, toilet-water, and talc in a basket.

8. A safe gift—because it's a great favourite: Weil's "Cobra" perfume.

9. Daggett and Ramsdell case—all fitted out for the week-end.

10. For someone who is everyone's favourite hostess. Chanel "Visitor's Soap."

11. Be-flowered frame for three flacons of perfume. Lenthéric's "Miniatures."

12. Charming accessory to add to her costume. Renoir's "Chichi" perfume.

13

14

15

16

MR. ANTHONY...

13. A secret panel of Barbara Gould cosmetics—slides into a faille bag.

14. This luxe quilted bag of rayon satin carries Ella Baché's Cosmetics.

15. Wrapped and ready in gold paper and holly: any perfume of Prince Matchabelli.

16. A wooden case with three Alexandra de Markoff toilet-waters (Franklin Simon).

17. In this handsome felt shoulder-strap bag: Marie Earle creams, make-up.

18. "Joy," a sentiment felt upon receipt of Jean Patou's perfume of ditto name.

19. A jewel-case with Dorothy Gray's cosmetics as temporary built-in jewels.

20. A tucker-inner for a hand-bag—with leather compact, Tangee lipstick, rouge.

21. Charles of the Ritz "Moss Rose" Cologne and Scented Balm in a metronome.

22. Goodies flavoured with "Old Spice" (by Shulton) in a sweet miniature trunk.

23. Tussy makes sachet "Records" to file away in this Christmas Album.

24. Foiled! (in silver) five "Checkmate"-scented bath accoutrements (Henri Bendel).

• These ready-packaged Christmas answers are last-minute saves: you can find and buy them easily in most shops in most towns, throughout the country.

17

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21

BAKER

22

23

24

BARBED WIRE IN PARADISE

Living in Hawaii is like sitting up front beside the driver of this Pacific war

BY MARGARET MACKAY

[EDITOR'S NOTE: *Mrs. Mackay, the author of "Valiant Dust" and other novels about China, where she spent the better part of the past ten years, is now "waiting" in Hawaii. Her husband, a British liaison officer with the Chinese Army, has been reported missing since March a year ago, in action on the Burma Road.*]

FOR many months after the *Blitz*, as everyone calls the December 7 attack, life was grimly tense in Honolulu. The Islands felt scared and tiny and terrifyingly far from home. The whole population was punctured with vaccinations and inoculations. Guilty householders who showed a crack of light were hauled off in a police car to the Provost Court—one prominent lady, as a matter of fact, in bright pink lounging pyjamas.

You never budged from home without an identification card, and you felt bold and fatalistic if you didn't carry a gas mask. On the rare occasions when you were so frivolous as to go out to a dinner-party, you either dined at four-thirty and fled, Cinderella-like, before the six o'clock curfew, or else you took along a nightie and a toothbrush and stayed until morning.

Since the victory at Midway, however, the strain has gradually been lessening. Air-raid shelters, once the most important additions to every house, are now eyed frowningly as breeding-places for mosquitoes. Curfew has been moved up to ten o'clock. And until ten, even the total black-out has become a dim-out—a blessing in a subtropic climate, where one suffocates in the tomb-sealed black-out rooms.

Every now and then the erudite and articulate Commanding General of the Central Pacific area, Lieutenant General Robert C. Richardson, junior, issues an official reminder that we are still subject to attack, and warns us that we mustn't start yawning again, as in pre-Pearl Harbor days. Nevertheless the Islands, instead of feeling like a battlefront, have come to regard themselves rather as a halfway station—a training ground for the tens of thousands of men on their way Down Under, and a recreational area for those coming back from the scarred ships and the foxholes.

The soldiers on pass no longer are required to carry their steel helmets and gas masks on the streets, nor the officers their revolvers, as they were until a few months ago. It's pleasant to see them with only the *leis* and the cameras, and the wrapped-up packages of Hawaiian curios—the aloha shirts and the hula skirts, the Polynesian-print bathing-suits and the woven *lauhala* handbags—which they buy in uncounted tons to send home to the girl friends and the folks.

They're great gift-senders and letter-writers, the boys on "The Rock," as they call Oahu. For many of them, poor dears, are very lonesome.

"I'd rather be either down fighting at the front, or else be back on the Mainland," they often grumble. "Not just sitting here on my fanny."

A lot of their homesickness comes from the relative scarcity of white people—particularly girls. If you're a woman, you're lucky to be young, or even youngish, in present-day Hawaii. After the Japanese raid, the Army and Navy wives were evacuated, except a handful with Government jobs or official residences in the Territory, and many civilian families took refuge on the Mainland, also. Hence the few hundreds of personable young women not only have a unique vantage post for the stern spectacle of the Pacific war, but a full social life, as well.

Every girl is "popular." Citizens complain that it's hard to get a telephone number beginning with "9" in the evenings—because that's the exchange in the Waikiki district, where most of the white-collar girls live, and thousands of young officers overload the trunk-lines every night, calling for dates.

Nearly every day there's a dance, in the late afternoon and early evening, at one or another of the Officers' Clubs at the various Army posts, Naval stations, or airfields. And so, around four-thirty—after the four o'clock closing of the Honolulu offices—the Navy and Marine station-wagons or the khaki-painted Army cars drive around to pick up a load of girls. Most of them are in sports frocks and spectator pumps, or, at the dressiest, in prints and high-heeled sandals. Hats, in the younger set, are almost non-existent, giving way in the festive Polynesian fashion to *(Continued on page 72)*

CHRISTMAS LETTERS

(Continued from page 20)

from the folks and gang back home and thought perhaps she might be interested in glancing through it some time at her leisure—then, turning, perhaps too eagerly to accept my gift.

It was graciously handed over, opened, and, to my joy, it was a beautiful cigarette-case of silver, engraved with her initials and the royal coat-of-arms or her crest, I believe. Lt. Brush received a set consisting of a silver penknife and silver pencil, likewise engraved. Our heartfelt thanks were given, and then, while all the guests awaited in the other room, the Queen Mother undid the paper-clip box and eagerly went through the package.

She seemed pleased no end, thanked me most graciously, had one of her staff come in immediately to take my gift and have it displayed in the other room along with the jewels and silver and priceless antiques she had received as Christmas gifts. We rejoined the guests then, chatted for a few minutes, and then went on, in proper order, to the dining-room.

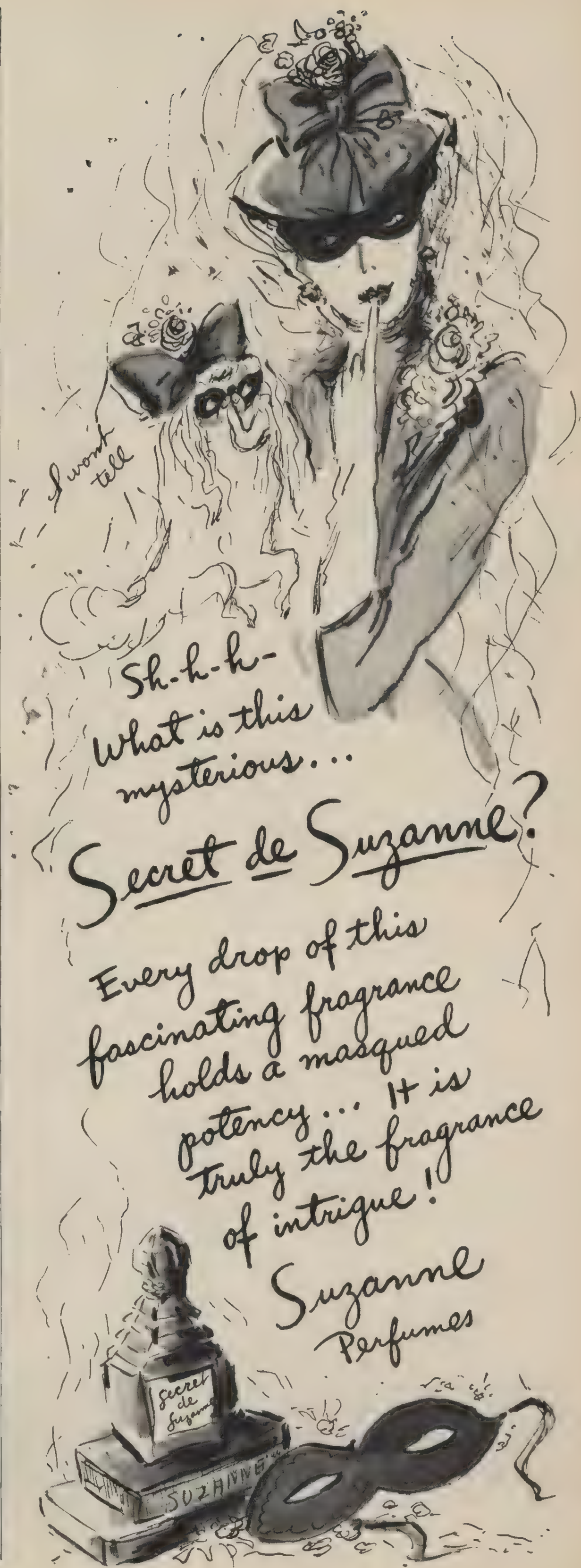
Lord Claud had come to me just before we left for the dining-hall to advise that I was to sit at the Queen's left, and Captain Thornelee of the British Army on her right. He and I followed Her Majesty into the dining-hall, found our proper places, and, as smoothly as a well-rehearsed movie scene, were all seated and the dinner was underway...

During dinner most of my conversation was with Queen Mary. We discussed America and Canada and England.

You will recall the favours we used to distribute at parties when we were kids. The cardboard tubes with paper tassels at the ends that we would pull, causing a loud explosion. Inside was a motto, or a fortune, some sort of a gift, and always a paper hat. These the English call "crackers," and a very fancy type of these were distributed during the last course of the dinner.

When all were distributed, each guest crossed his arms, taking the end of the "cracker" of the guest on either side. A pause, then, that each could make a wish that was bound to come true, and then all together the crackers were exploded. Great laughter and much fun all around the table as the favours were opened, and we found our mottoes, our tiny gifts, and our paper hats. These were promptly put on, and I wondered what the War Department would have done to this Captain to see him sitting alongside the Queen Mother with a pink hat that bloomed out above my khaki in tassels and frills! The fact that the Queen wore a similar headpiece might have helped.

The Queen was interested in my stories of our Christmases at home. We spent some little time, Mother, talking of you. The Queen told me how she wished it were possible for you to have been there and asked me if I would be so kind as to send along a little gift from her to you. On the table were some velvet *(Continued on page 64)*



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CHRISTMAS LETTERS

(Continued from page 63)

roses which Her Majesty told me were used annually for decorations on the table at Christmas time. She gave me one of these to send to you, Mother.

Nothing had been strained or false or patronizing. It was grand. Must close for tonight. Hope you are all well, happy, and that all goes well.

Love,

CHARLES

[*Editor's Note:* This letter is being republished in *A Book of War Letters*, edited by Harry E. Maule.]

CORPORAL IN ICELAND

Dear Nellie and Dad:

It is exactly five minutes after five Christmas morning as I start to write this. I was lucky tonight and was allowed a few hours to attend midnite Mass with my bosom comrade.

And believe me, it was an inspiring event this first midnite Mass overseas. I think that every Catholic in this sector who was able to walk attended tonight. The place where the services are held (which also serves as a theatre and general recreation hall) was jammed to capacity, and there were fellows standing outside all through the Mass. The priest started hearing confessions at 10 o'clock and he didn't get through until 3¼ hours later. You might tell Father Dan about it. I think if he could have been here he would have been genuinely stirred. As I knelt at the front of the little hall I pictured closely every detail. A big Indian from Oklahoma was kneeling on one side, an Irishman (Sullivan) on the other, and a dozen boys of every descent imaginable completed the line. There was no organ music, but we sang the songs so familiar to all Catholics—"Silent Night," "Adeste Fidelis," etc.—and even though we may have been slightly off tune at times, they sounded sweet as childhood. As a matter of fact, trying to be heard above Sully's gravelly bass and letting my mind wander back to other Christmas times, I would have had no trouble shedding myself a few tears had not the old pride interfered.

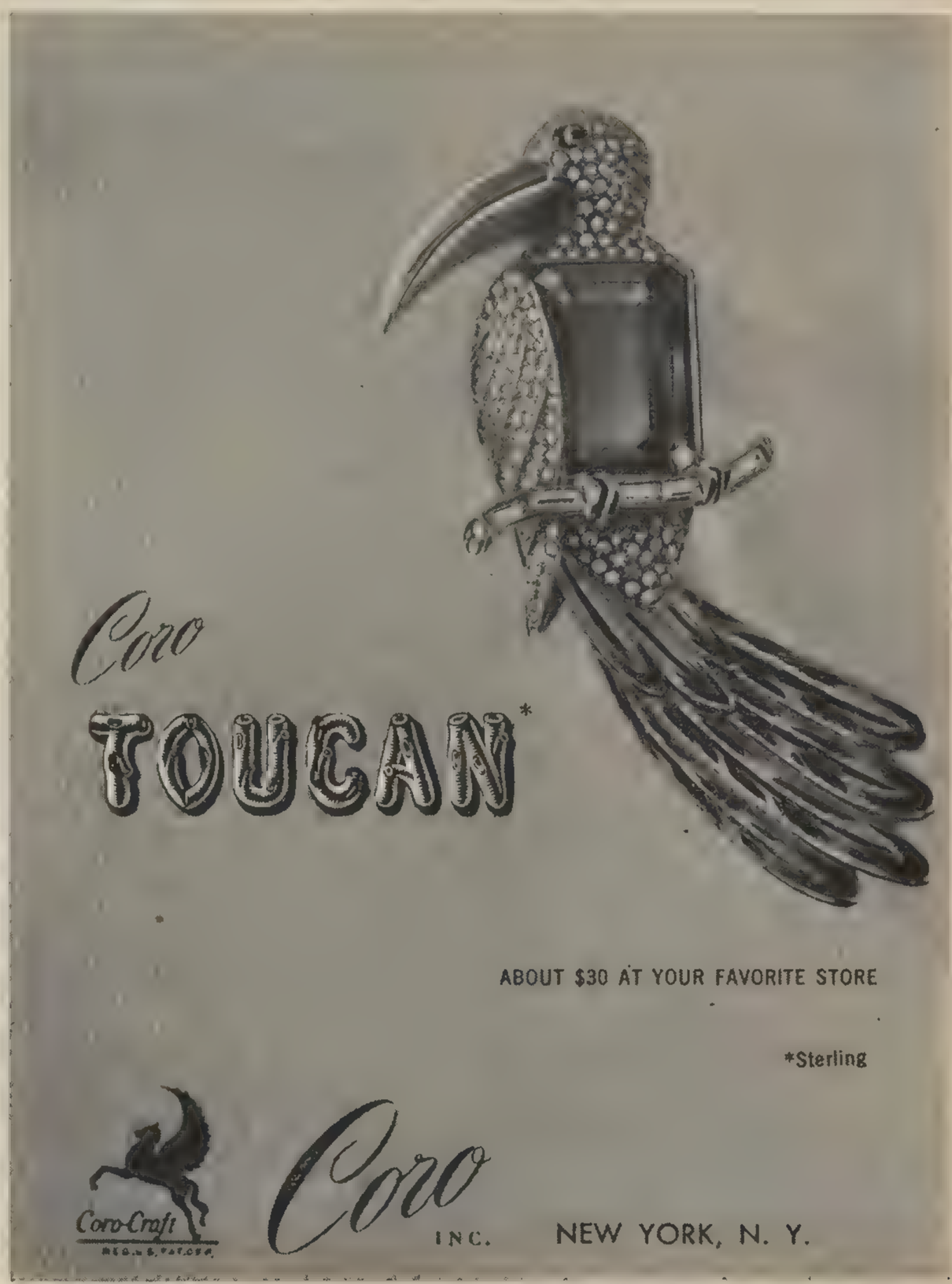
So much for midnite Mass. Now about Christmas in general as we see it over here. It is hard to get in the mood, as you might guess. There are very few things over here to remind one that it is Christmas. I have seen only one little tree so far. That was in the "church."

We are going to have a swell Christmas dinner according to what I hear. We are even going to have punch with a bit of a spike in it. Or as Harvey Jones would say, "some dust in it."...

I prayed for you at Mass. Take care of yourselves, pray and have faith.

Love,

JOHN



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It shines like a beacon light through the ages . . .

it survives every trial . . . it gives men courage and women hope.

This, then, of all years, is the year to give a Gift of Beauty to a woman you love . . .

for there is gallantry in the blaze of a lipstick . . . ardour in the whiff of a perfume . . .

solace in things to make her lovelier.

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"Forbidden" color suffused with the "forbidden" fragrance . . . that's what TABU Lipstick puts on your lips. Then to make doubly sure he can't escape, a drop of TABU Perfume from the vial concealed in the lipstick cover. Five shades. $2.50 including the perfume (tax extra).

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CHRISTMAS PARTY

(Continued from page 54)

nounced. One person at either end serves from the casseroles, which are the best type of food for this meal.

Wartime Buffet

Two or three courses are all that are necessary—a hot dish, a salad, and a hot fruit dessert are the winter maximum. For the main course, a wonderful standby is breast of chicken; another is calves' liver in a brown sauce. (Of course, this is a difficult dish in these times of rationing. But, if enough points can be saved, it is most satisfactory. The liver is cut in small, uniform squares, and powdered bacon is added to the sauce. It's cooked very crisp, the morning before the party, and pounded to a powder.) If there's cream, try a chicken-and-onion casserole, made with white meat only, cream, and onions so cooked down that they melt away in the sauce. If there's no cream, but if there are enough points, try breaded vealcutlets, small, thin, and meticulously neat in an oval copper dish, hot on the burner lamp. (If the veal is cut thin and pounded, and soaked overnight in milk, it can be cut with a fork.) If meat is scarce, try a fillet of sole or flounder, poached in chicken stock, and served in a square Pyrex dish on a thin bed of finely puréed mushrooms. Crab flakes are an excellent casserole dish, and so is a Kedgeree.

Almost as important as the main dishes are the little extras: corn bread, baked paper-thin, cut in squares, and served in straight stacks; brownbread toast with all fish dishes, also stacked one slice on top of another.

Deep-dish apple pie is one of our favourite desserts for this sort of a buffet. The pie is served hot, from the dish it cooked in, and kept hot on the burner that is on the table through the meal. (If there are more than ten people, there are two sets of everything made—two main dishes, two pies.) The finest attribute of an apple pie is its juiciness. And the best way to achieve that is to cook the apples slightly first, then add a small amount of molasses, *which has been boiled*, brown sugar and cinnamon. (Another requisite is a first-class puff-paste.)

Another very good hot fruit dessert is made of apricots, prunes, and home-preserved peaches, cooked, with a maple syrup, and arranged carefully in layers.

Other Suggestions

Vegetables are the most ill-treated of foods, as a rule, and, of them all, potatoes are probably the most abused. Potatoes have twice the flavour baked instead of boiled, either for mashed potatoes or potato cakes. It makes all the difference in the final taste. Stringbeans—never split, never soaked—look better and taste better when they are tied in neat bundles for a short, ten-minute, under-cooking, untied, and served in neat rows. A suggestion for broccoli is to cut away all the tops, and use only the stems, pared down and served like a strange, new asparagus. (The tops are perfect material for a soup the next day.) Cauliflower takes on a new, blander flavour if you boil it in milk instead of water, and carrots *(Continued on page 71)*

O, Little Star of Bethlehem . . .

Let your glory hallow the earth. Let the laughter of little children ring out through all the world ...spiritual witness of Freedom's worth.

Let all men know that tyranny will soon be ended...and that Justice shall reign forever.

On this Christmas...when so much of the world is still smothered 'neath the black robe of slavery ...let the Lamp of Liberty burn brightly... to warm the hearts of all mankind.

Soon...the Angel of Peace shall descend from heaven once again...and his mantle shall cloak all the world in joyous gladness. Mothers and fathers...wives and husbands...sons and daughters shall reunite. Hearts will sing in happiness, and no more will blood be shed...neither will tears bitterly fall.

And the sweat of Everyman's brow will be the sweat of free, productive effort.

O, Little Star of Bethlehem...shine gloriously on this night...while we pray...that Christmas may be Christmas soon again!

May the Christmas Star . . . in its shining hour . . . gladden your own heart . . . brighten your own hopes for the present and for the future. To you and yours . . . and to all who march in Christianity's new Crusade . . . heartfelt Christmas Greetings!

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EXPERIENCE AMONG FREAKS

(Continued from page 53)

to infer, the dear children know all about the number two.

In Canada, it appeared, she was to have a free hand practising the modern method. I hope that, as a result, many Canadian children learned to know how many noses they had. There was, she confessed, one slight obstacle, that she would have to become a Catholic; but she didn't mind that. She had only one thing against Catholics, and that was that they played cards on Sundays after Mass. I assured her that this was not compulsory, and, when we parted, her last scruples were removed.

Revelations—Hair-raisers

It is amazing how many people believe that the whole world is the victim, or soon will be the victim, of some dark plot or conspiracy. I have been solemnly assured that the Free Masons have a vast secret government of the world, which by means of blackmail controls the actions of statesmen; on the other side, I have had hair-raising revelations, in my own country, from people who were convinced that England is honeycombed with Jesuits.

One fellow passenger on a long journey told me the sad story of the village of D..... Everyone in the village was happy until an Italian organ-grinder appeared, and by his airs and graces won an ill-deserved popularity. Step by step he climbed, and ended by marrying the lady of the manor. When last heard of, the village of D..... had gone over entirely to Rome.

The German spy and the Communist agent also have their advocates for the place of supreme Machiavellian wickedness; I have even, in America, heard this place assigned to the British Government propagandist. People find a pleasure in thinking good people very stupid, and clever people very wicked. I suppose those who enjoy this pleasure know themselves to be stupid, but are not quite so sure that they are good, and so they persuade themselves that stupidity is a mark of goodness.

My mail often contains very odd letters from people who like or dislike things that I have written. When I lived in England I sometimes received letters with such addresses as "Bertrand Russell, BAD MAN, Wicked Philosopher, England," and since living in America I have had similar letters with slightly less vague, but not less abusive addresses. Letters from admirers are more embarrassing, because they are more apt to need answers.

I am amazed at the number of theories of the universe that I am asked to endorse. One man writes to say that he has shown the universe to be a dodecahedron, but can not get his proof printed; will I approach various learned societies on his behalf? Another writes that he has established a connection between business cycles and animal magnetism; depressions would cease, he assures me, if dogs and cats were compelled to sleep with their noses pointing towards the magnetic north.

Some correspondents are convinced that the world's problems would be solved if we all lived exclusively on nuts; *(Continued on page 71)*

It's holiday time... a time that calls for the very finest in wines. Widmer's stocks are insufficient to fill all demands... but here's hoping you'll find what you want.

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EXPERIENCE AMONG FREAKS

(Continued from page 70)

others think that the secret of the universe is known only to themselves and certain Tibetan lamas. Once, just as I was beginning a lecture tour, I was advised to scrap all my lecture notes and confine myself to mentioning that the Second Coming was due in six weeks. Inevitably, all such correspondents become savagely hostile when I fail to subscribe to their theories.

Then there are people who ask advice as to their personal problems. "My wife has left me. I don't mind that, but she has taken the furniture. What am I to do?" "My parents belong to religion A, but I have become engaged to a girl of religion B. My mother says she will commit suicide if I marry the girl. Do you think she will?" (I invariably reply in the negative.) In China, most of my students had been betrothed at the age of four, and now wished to marry someone else.

As a moral problem this seemed to me easy, but I soon found that the real difficulty was financial; if they broke off the engagement, they had to pay the girl's parents a large sum of money.

My conclusion from a wide experience of freaks is that when people become queer it is either through conceit or through hatred; either they think too well of themselves, or they think too ill of other people. In both cases, the cause is usually some humiliation which has to be compensated in fantasy.

To humiliate a man or a nation may be necessary for self-protection, but almost always has a bad effect, both morally and intellectually, upon the person or nation that is humiliated. This is to be remembered in punishing criminals, and in the business of educating the young, which has often been thought of as somewhat similar. I doubt whether the pupils at Dotheboys Hall grew up into modest philanthropists.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

(Continued from page 69)

seem like a new Burbank hybrid when the raw carrots are sliced thin and sautéed in butter.

Sliced oranges have a new interest if the oranges are cut in neat segments, and cooked slightly. Pour off the juice, adding the juice of another whole orange. Cook the liquid with sugar until it thickens, add grated orange peel to the sauce, and serve ice-cold.

Grated fresh coconut, served separately, is worth trying with this, but the coconut must be fresh.

Two other good cold desserts are frozen custard, with coarsely-grated vanilla beans all through it, and creamy rice pudding, frozen like ice-cream.... None of these dishes is complicated. But with life as it is today, we are coming to realize more and more that simplicity in food is as charming as elsewhere.

SUN still shines practically every day of the year—air is dry, warm and tonic, regardless of Hitler and Hirohito. So come—*re-energize* for the bigger war and post-war jobs ahead. But—this is important—*don't come without advance reservations!* Write today to our 22-year, non-profit Sunshine Climate Club!

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Circlette de luxe Willat COLD Wave that's sprayed into your hair

BARBED WIRE IN PARADISE

(Continued from page 62)

a flower in the hair—plumeria or hibiscus, orchid or gardenia.

Island women use less make-up than their sisters at home—you seldom see eye shadow or mascara at all; but most of the girls are tanned from sunning on the barbed-wired beaches. The warm climate and brown legs make the hosiery problem less formidable than in the States. With the shipping shortages, however, you learn not to look for new clothes only when you need them.

The mature ladies of the old Island families still go downtown conservatively with hatted heads and stockinged limbs; and at the Big Five dinner-parties, as often as not, the women guests continue to dress.

Among the pioneer aristocracy, except for some of the younger wives with children to put in school, very few scurried off to the Coast in the exodus after the *Blitz*. Mrs. Walter Dillingham, who was away at the time, even came back as soon as she could get passage; she now heads the women's section of the Office of Civilian Defense, and—with Mr. Dillingham, who serves as Director of Food Control—entertains large parties of officers and war-work volunteers on the terrace of "La Pietra," her handsome Florentine villa at Diamond Head.

It isn't that you forget the war, at these refreshing parties. Indeed, you often find yourself in the current of the fateful "missions" which are always flying back and forth between Washington and the South Pacific. The gatherings glint with yards of gold braid and constellations of silver stars. Sometimes the distinguished Commanding General of the Hawaiian Department is there—General Richardson, who leaves one gaping across the table at his graceful quotations from the "Sir Roger de Coverly Papers" or the epitaphs on the tombs of Westminster Abbey.

Sometimes, too, there is the great and beloved Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Fleet. Admiral Nimitz is a favourite at parties—and no wonder. For he flatters everyone by remembering names and faces from years back, and delights his fellow guests with his famous stories, told with a warming twinkle in the bluest eyes you ever saw.

"I guess the Admiral is about the most approachable man in the whole Navy," a young junior Lieutenant on his staff once remarked. "Over at CINCPAC headquarters, a fellow may be scared to bother some of the Captains with a question, but, if the Admiral is there, you don't mind going to him, because he'll always take the time to answer you patiently."

Occasionally, one meets celebrities who are able to interpret their impressions with a special flair. For example, there was the late Lieutenant-Commander McClelland Barclay, the magazine illustrator. He talked about the battle scenes which he hoped soon to sketch from the deck of a combat ship, *Down* *(Continued on page 73)*

BARBED WIRE IN PARADISE

(Continued from page 72)

South, and how he had trained himself to make swift line-drawings even in the dark. He kept adding, "If I get killed," or "If I don't come back," or "if something happens to me—" And one couldn't help wondering at such an insistent premonition.

But his hunch was right. Its significance was brought back a few months later by another famous man—Colonel John W. Thomason, junior, the Marine Corps' author and artist, on his return from a tour of the South Sea battle zones.

"I got my pants blown off in the same explosion that killed Barclay," the Colonel told me with his forthright Texas drawl. "There were nine of us altogether there, and everybody got killed but me. Funny, isn't it? I guess I'm just lucky, that's all."

If you live in the midst of these stirring contacts, you have an absorbing psychological focus on this half of the global war. You can watch the task forces and the formations of planes moving out as you lie on the barricaded beach. When you go to a dance at the Navy Yard, you can see the returned ships lying alongside the shore with great holes to be repaired; while at the Army airfields, the B-24s and P-40s are there, almost under your nose, with bullet-holes in their wings.

Now and then you welcome some of your friends back, tired or convalescent, from New Guinea or the Aleutians. You meet the famous war correspondents en route to the front, and the delegations of British officers—Englishmen, Australians, New Zealanders—who stop over between planes on their way to the Antipodes.

You recall the nerve-strung young submariner on liberty after a sixty-day cruise in Japanese waters, whom you could hear all night long, pacing up and down in the next room. ...The infantry shavetail who debonairly assured you that he would bring you back "a string of beads from the Solomons"—and never returned....The ship's cat named Blackout, deceased from overeating, who was buried at sea with a full Naval funeral....The pretty Navy bride who, ever since Midway, has been expecting her Jimmy to turn up some day on a desert island....The reserve officer making a transpacific telephone call to his wife and children on the East Coast, on his wedding anniversary. ("No," he said, "I couldn't understand all of what they said—but it was good to hear their voices.")

To us war wives who have a personal, emotional stake in the battle for Asia, whose husbands are off somewhere beyond the tropic-blue horizon—fighting, or, like mine, missing—the sombre fascination of life in this mid-ocean outpost lies, I think, in its intimate sense of participation. If you can't be in combat yourself, at least it's like sitting up in the front seat beside the driver, where you can strain your eyes and see, perhaps better than anywhere else on American soil, what's going on in the Pacific.

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RECORDS TO GIVE

(Continued from page 30)

The Making of Americans, which, in spite of her reputation, is intelligent and intelligible....

Robert Frost, reading "Death of the Hired Man," and eleven of his other poems—his voice gravelly, matter of fact, completely New England....

Maurice Evans and his Company in four scenes from "Richard II.," including the famous speech: "...let us sit upon the ground and tell sad stories of the death of kings."

Stanley Holloway's Humorous *English Monologues.* (Some of these are in the Lancashire dialect; in others, he talks to music, as in the story of Anne Boleyn's ghost: "With Her Head Tucked Underneath Her Arm." If you like Lancashire, you adore Holloway; if you don't, he bores you.)...

John Gielgud, in Volume II. of "The Voice of Poetry," reads Waller's "Go, Lovely Rose," and other poetry, in a clear, Shakespearian-actor voice....

President Roosevelt's War Message to Congress and the Nation, December 8, 1941.

For Singing

Charles Trenet's songs. (He is the French Bing Crosby.)...

Richard Tauber's album of "favourite songs"—"Can I Forget You?", "Pale Hands I Loved."...

Marian Anderson in *Great Songs of Faith,* from "Elijah," "The Messiah," "The Passion According to St. John."

The Classics

Beethoven's Quartets, played by the Budapest String Quartet, because theirs are the most classic, the most definitive interpretations. (If you're only looking for one, listen to the Twelfth.)...

Schubert's Trio #1 in B Flat Major and Beethoven's "Archduke" Trio, both played by Artur Rubinstein, Jascha Heifetz, and Emanuel Feuermann....

L'Anthologie Sonore (a record library of Renaissance, Baroque, and Rococo music. In *L'Anthologie* are Dufay's "Kyrie" and "Alma Redemptoris Mater," some of the most beautiful early church music recorded.)...

The six-volume *Columbia History of Music,* which ranges from the mediæval plainsong, "Veni, Sancte Spiritus," to Symphony #3 by the twentieth-century French composer, Darius Milhaud....

Three albums by Toscanini and the NBC Symphony: Brahms' Concerto #2 in B Flat Major, with Vladimir Horowitz at the piano; Brahms' Symphony #1 in C Minor; and the Beethoven Violin Concerto, with Jascha Heifetz as soloist.

The Modern

Ernest Bloch's "Schelomo" (Hebrew Rhapsody), played by cellist Emanuel Feuermann with Leopold Stokowski conducting the Philadelphia Orchestra.... *(Continued on page 75)*

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RECORDS TO GIVE

(Continued from page 74)

Oscar Levant plays "A Recital of Modern Music," including Gershwin, Ravel, Shostakovitch....

Gustav Mahler's "Das Lied Von Der Erde" (The Song of the Earth), lonely Wagnerian music which Mahler called a "symphony of songs," wrote as a setting for six Chinese poems....

Prokofieff's gay, Russian "Lt. Kije Suite."

Intellectual's Jazz

"Please Do Not Disturb," "Her Old Man Was Suspicious," and other wackily-titled jazz, composed by Alec Wilder for eight musicians who play the harpsichord, bassoon, oboe, et cetera, and call themselves the Alec Wilder Octet....

"The Duke Ellington Panorama" in which he plays "East St. Louis Toddle," "Mood Indigo," and others....

Albums of records by the Boswell Sisters and others. The Brunswick Radio Corporation has collected its old records by various singers and orchestras, and has issued them in special albums. Good for people who have one particular musical love....

The NBC Chamber Music Society of Lower Basin Street, with Dinah Shore as "guest artist." They are "dedicated to the preservation of the music of the Three B's: Barrelhouse, Boogie-Woogie, and the Blues." In their two albums are: "Basin St. Blues," "Chloe," "Stardust," "Lady of the Evening," and assorted others.

Of and For the People

Gypsy Melodies, played by Joseph Szigeti....

The flamenco songs of the Andalusian gypsies, sung by La Niña de los Peines (The Woman with the Spanish Combs)....

A Program of Mexican Music, including "Sones Mariachi," "La Paloma Azul," and folk-songs from the provinces of Sonora and Vera Cruz, played by Carlos Chavez and his Orchestra....

"Songs of Lidice" (Czech folk-songs), sung by Jarmila Novotna of the Metropolitan Opera, accompanied on the piano by Jan Masaryk, Vice-Premier of Czechoslovakia....

"Ballad for Americans," sung by Paul Robeson and the American People's Chorus....

"Dust Bowl Ballads," sung by Woody Guthrie. They are American folk-music, made up during the migrations from the Middle West's "Dust Bowl" in the 1930's. One particularly, "Dusty Old Dust," will probably go around in your head for days after you hear it....

"Songs of the Red Army," by the Choir of the Red Army of the U.S.S.R. (Less polished, more exuberant than the Don Cossacks. The album includes the famous "From Border unto Border.") *(Continued on page 76)*

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FORBIDDEN FRUIT LIQUEUR

RECORDS TO GIVE

(Continued from page 75)

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"The Consecration of the House." Overture by Beethoven....

Some of the Musicraft Sets (good music not recorded by the bigger companies). Among them, Bach's "Coffee Cantata" (secular, not religious singing) and Chinese Classical Music by Wei Chung Loh.

For Children's Strong Ears

Prokofieff's tongue-in-the-cheek "Classical Symphony," half-poking fun at, half-admiring, the music of Mozart and Haydn....

Roumanian Folk Dances, played by violinist Joseph Szigeti and pianist Bela Bartók....

Beethoven's Pastorale Symphony....

Bizet's "Carmen Suite."...

The Jungle Book, narrated by Sabu, with music composed by Mikros Rozsa, who conducts the Victor Concert Orchestra in this album. The combination of words and music is much like that used by Prokofieff for his *Peter and the Wolf*.

BOOKS TO GIVE

(Continued from page 30)

and an ineffectual elf, Mr. O-Malley...

G. B. S. by Hesketh Pearson.

Poetry

T. S. Eliot's *Collection of Kipling Poems;* a brilliant foreword by a poet who likes Kipling and selects the ones he likes best...

Donne's *Love Poems;* published with them, the prose "Devotion" from which "For Whom the Bell Tolls" comes...

Louis Untermeyer's *Treasury of Poetry:* a godsend book.

Good Prose Department

Sacheverell Sitwell's *Mozart;* an Englishman's appreciation...

Helen Waddell's *The Wandering Scholars:* the precision of scholarship on mediævalism...

W. H. Hudson's *Green Mansions:* magic fantasy in a South American forest...

Edmund Wilson's *The Shock of Recognition:* brilliant literary criticism...

Perfect Pick-ups, and Useful, Too

The Escoffier Cook Book; A Treasury of the Familiar; The Constitution; the *American Thesaurus of Slang*, and H. L. Mencken's *The American Language* and *A New Dictionary of Quotations.*

VOGUE'S SPOT-LIGHT

(Continued from page 33)

are caught into loving the children, into loving one especially. And that one, played by Abby Bonime, makes for whatever is good in the play. Those three are a triangle that ends in tragedy. Incidentally, The Theatre Guild has provided the play with a concrete ship that is set firmly on the Belasco stage and that might be called, instead of a free-sailing pirate vessel, just the *S.S. Grounded.*

"A Connecticut Yankee," the musical comedy by Rodgers and Hart and Fields, that was an enormous hit in 1927, has now been fixed up for another generation, who probably will like to listen to two acts of Knights of the Round Table mixing up current clichés with "Thou dids't, Sire." To most of us, it ought to be called simply, "Nembutal." Out of the whole long march, only two moments and two players give lifting pleasure: Vivienne Segal tossing around the song, "To Keep My Love Alive," in which Larry Hart's lyrics shine; and little blond Vera-Ellen dancing like a runaway leaf. For the rest, it is all Liege Lords and a lot of unwitty mediæval costumes that have the palette taste of a Bohunk boudoir, all cheap shocking-pink and hard pale blue, a lot of lamé and ostrich feathers—the kind of costumes that elderly newspaper critics always call opulent.

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